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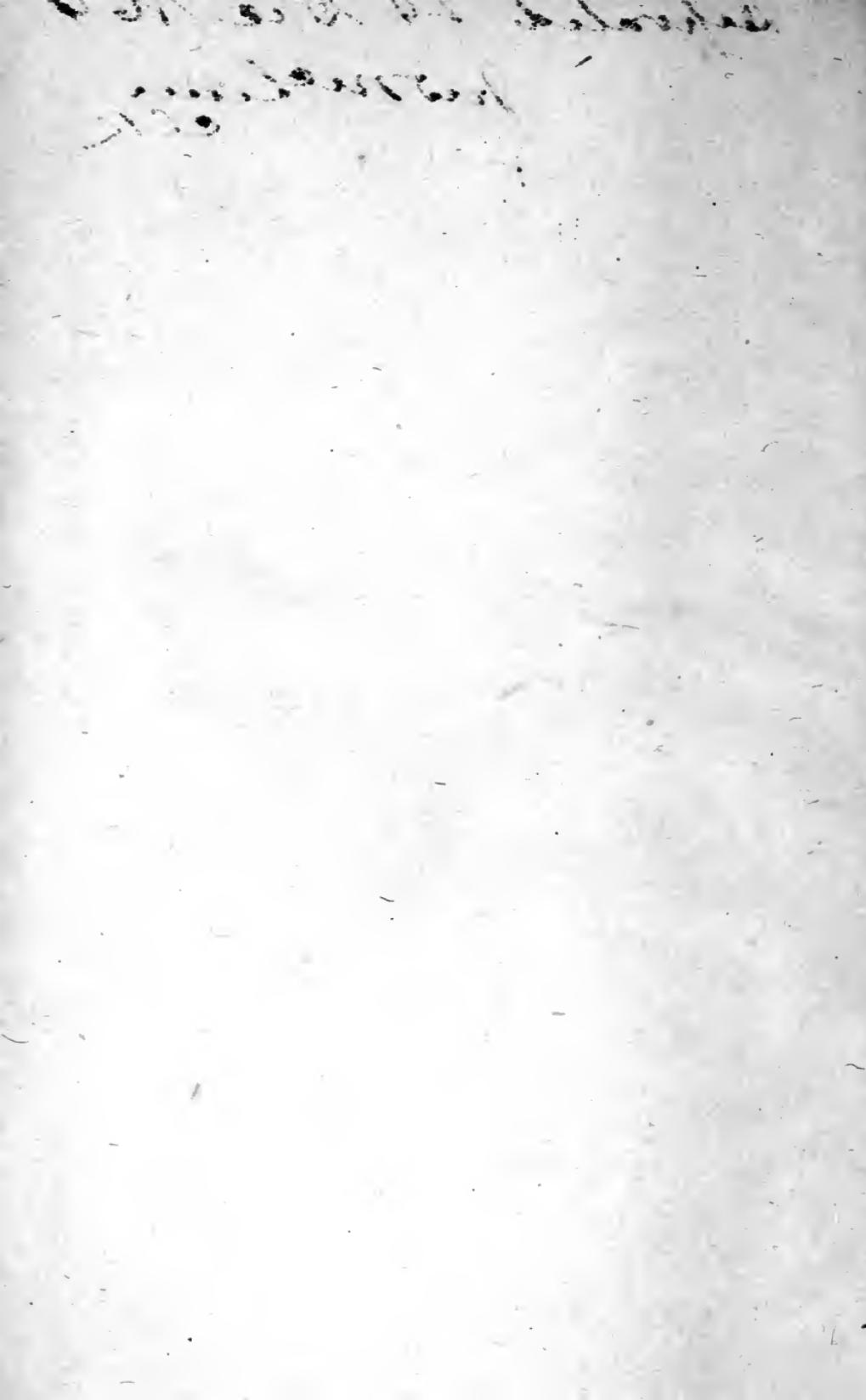
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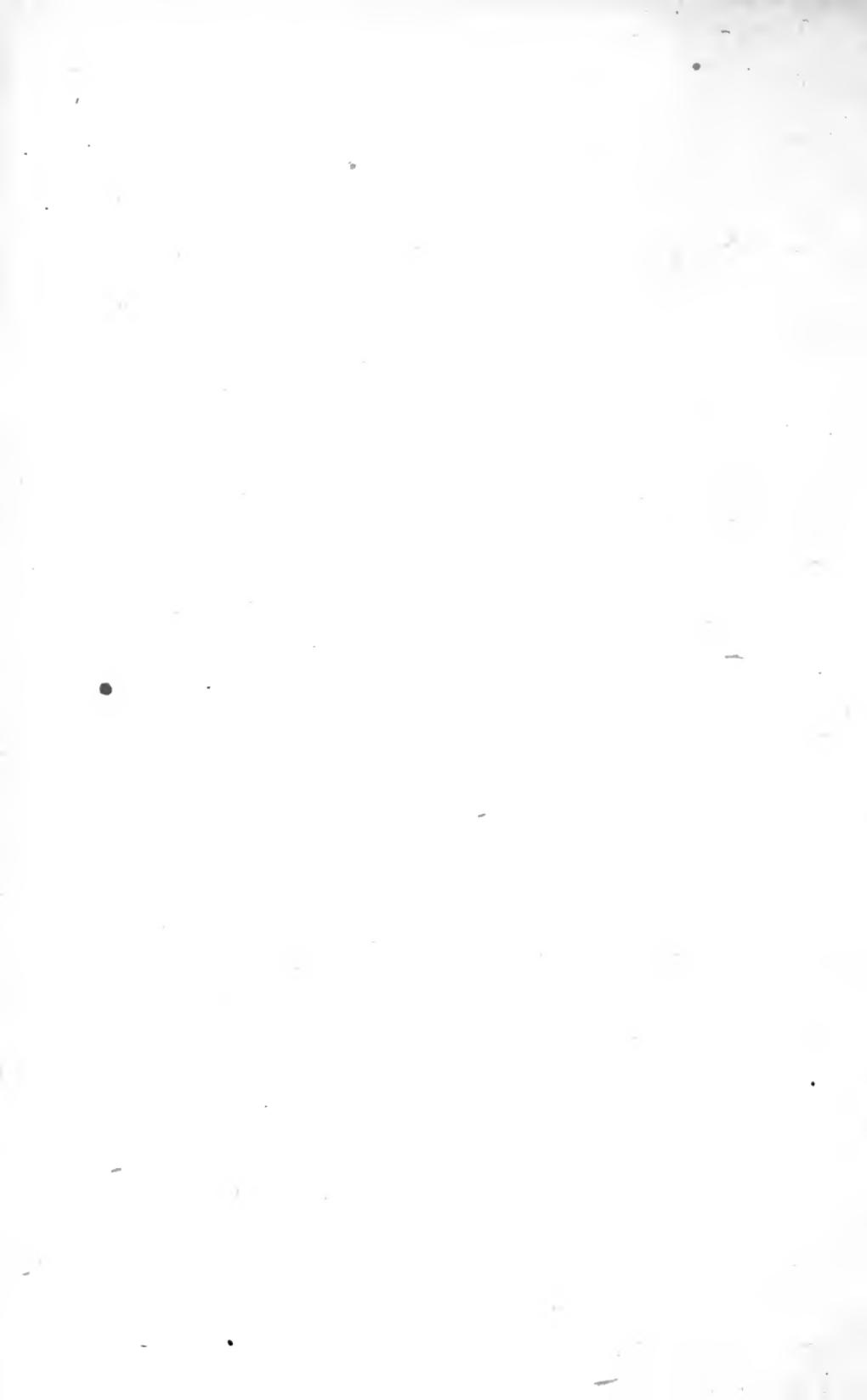
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A N

INFANT CLASS MANUAL:

DESIGNED FOR

TEACHERS OF INFANT CLASSES.

BY

PAMELIA BELDING.

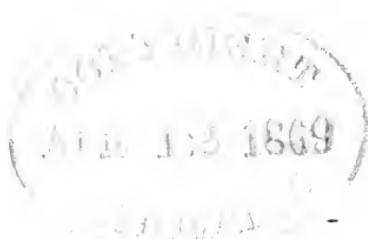


CINCINNATI:

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P R E F A C E.

By the long and successful trial which the author has given to the method of instruction brought to view in this manual, she is convinced that the whole process and apparatus are in keeping with the natural constitution of the infant mind; she believes it to be one truly in the "*wake of nature.*" Children capacitated to enjoy and communicate intellectual pleasures, are ever ready to hear as well as to relate stories. We think we have found at least one method whereby the progressive demand of early childhood may be happily and safely met, and the intellect may receive a healthy and vigorous culture, without impairing or weakening its energies, while the little inquirers after knowledge have opened up to them a field of thought where, within the range of their

own capacity, they may roam at pleasure through fields of intellectual delight.

The writer sends out this manual humbly trusting that it may meet with a kind reception and a fair trial; at least that the method of conveying instruction herein recommended may be accepted as a new element in infant instruction. Commending the work to the Divine blessing, she trusts it may be made welcome to thousands whose pleasure and interest it will be to carry out its spirit and design.

PAMELIA BELDING.

CINCINNATI, OCTOBER 1, 1864.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Sunday School has grown from humble beginnings to be almost the mightiest agency used by the Church of God for promoting the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom in the world. It is indispensable in a live Church, and every member ought to feel that it would be as proper to dispense with Sunday morning preaching as to try to live without a good Sunday school.

But it is extremely difficult to awaken and keep alive an intelligent interest in two classes of persons who attend, or ought to attend, our Sunday schools. These are the youth just growing into adolescence, and the infants just coming to moral accountability. To the former class we can offer the beautiful Word of God, and stimulate them to study and discuss, by topics, its sublime doctrines and life-drawn histories. The late Dr. Floy, of New York, attempted, and with much promise of success,

a series of text-books for these, and it is hoped that so good a series of Sunday school instruction books will be more energetically pushed into notice. For the second class, there have been "Manuals" in numbers brought forward, some so easy as to relieve the little minds, not only of the labor of thinking at all, but even to prevent them from making progress; and others so hard, and so full of great words, as to frighten even older heads who may attempt to teach the lessons.

Neither class needs, or can be best instructed by a classified arrangement and statement of the whole body of systematic theology. Both are best taught in the Bible way—by examples taken from life and vividly set before the mind in word-pictures, which shall first interest and attract the heart, and then reform the morals, through faith in the Divine Author of those inspired histories. It will then follow that our Sunday schools are correct in practice when they use the pure Word of God, and contrive, by means of questions, to enable every child to apprehend its sense, and then, by plain and personal appeals to the conscience of the scholar,

persuade him to practice what he has learned.

But an infant can not read, or if it can read, it can not compare point with point so as to reason out a logical answer to a series of questions. How, then, must we do with the infant? We must tell him the simple Bible story, and its great truth—telling these over and over till their substance becomes incorporated into the child's mental being, never to be forgotten or doubted, and then questioning him about the things learned, till he can communicate as well as remember the saving truths, and principles, and histories so gained. But while children with inquisitive minds and souls, and hearts to learn, and be formed anew, are plenty and eager to listen, teachers who have at once the two gifts, *to see*, and *to make others see* the simple and yet grand pictures and lessons of the Bible, are not plenty. Many a young man and young woman will find no difficulty in making others see what has been set before them, while yet they have not the gift divine to cull out of the scattered materials of nature, or the Word of God, those pictures for themselves. Hence the necessity of a book that shall take Bible

truths and histories and put them into lessons of proper length and order, adapting and fitting to them questions for examination and review, which any one can use.

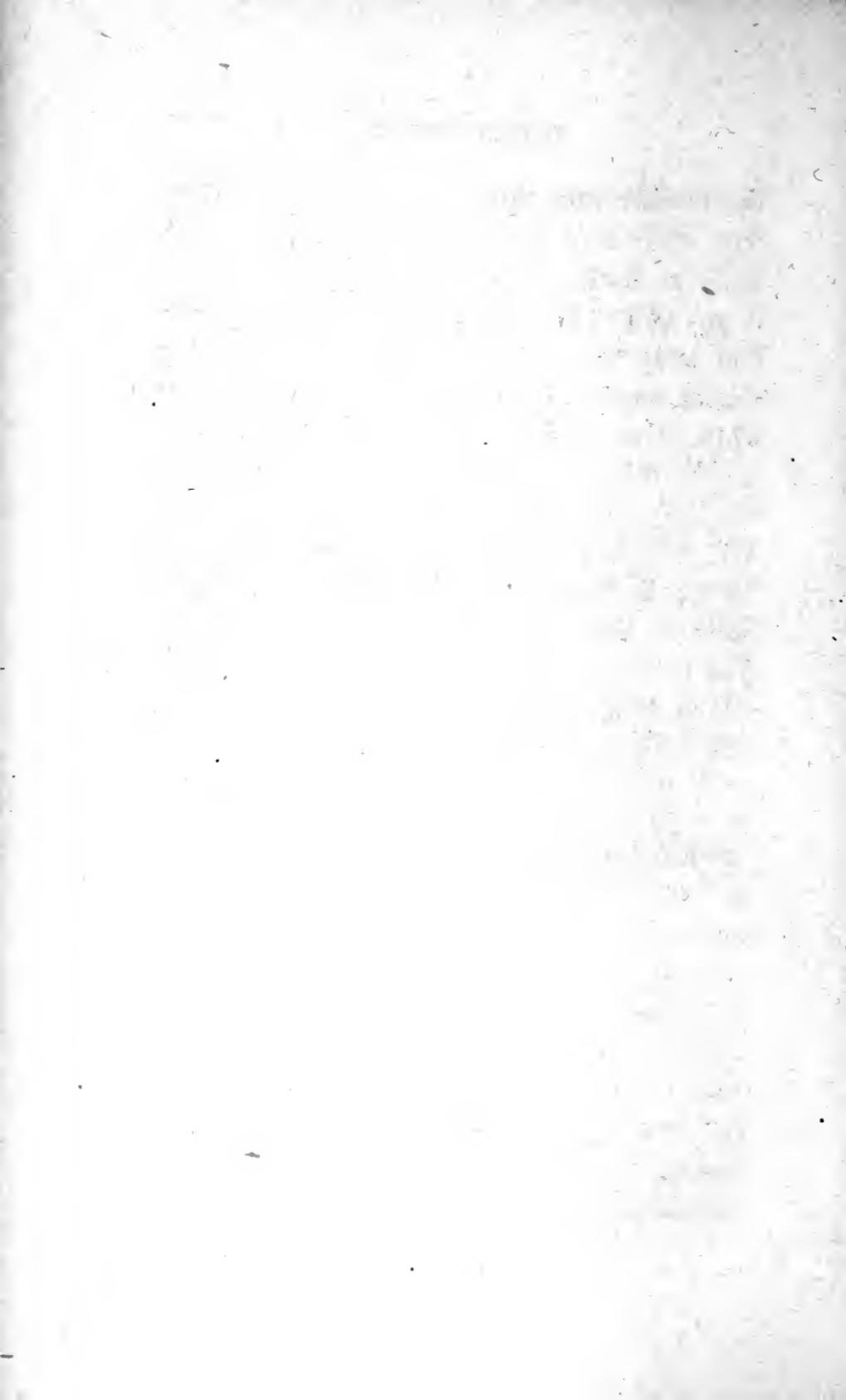
Again: these infant classes in our Sunday schools must be entertained and instructed by a large amount of singing. And this singing is too often entirely aimless, and so frequently repeated as to be almost worthless. Hence another necessity, to arrange these singing exercises so as to make them aid in enforcing the lesson in hand, and to add to it a beauty and an interest not always native to it. Then singing will teach as well as amuse, and grow in attractiveness as it will grow in power to convey moral instruction.

With these ideas and principles in mind, the following work has been prepared by one who has had a large experience in teaching the little ones in Sunday schools. It has been used in manuscript in several Sunday schools, and has proved a decided success. It aims to give consecutive instruction on Bible histories, truths, and doctrines, and to connect with these intelligent and recreating singing exercises. It proposes rather to assist teachers than aid their scholars. But

the teacher who thinks she can use it without study and prayer, will be greatly and sadly at fault. It will require work. And if any one who would attain to the honor and sway the influence of a good Sunday school teacher, is not willing to work hard while using it, she would do well not to adopt it. It will greatly aid an earnest, working teacher, and will not hurt any other, but will, like every thing else, prove almost a failure in the hands of a lazy one. It is made to be a help for those, and only those who love the work of Sunday schools, and are asking how they can do most of that work, and do it most efficiently.

ROBERT ALLYN.

M'KENDREE COLLEGE, ILL., }
OCTOBER, 1864. }



A WORD TO TEACHERS.

THE hymns and verses in the lessons serve not only as illustrations, but as an exercise, and afford opportunities for change of position. When either sung or repeated, the children may be required to rise to their feet—the teacher giving the signal, either by the ring of a small hand-bell, or in some other way.

The analysis of the lessons in the manner as brought to view in the first three lessons of this Manual will be found greatly to aid in securing the attention of the children, being a pleasing change of exercise; not being shut up to get written questions, the teacher progressing through the lesson can at any point question children on what they have just heard at pleasure. They will not only be attentive to the reading or relating of the lesson, that they may be able to answer the questions put to them, but they will answer

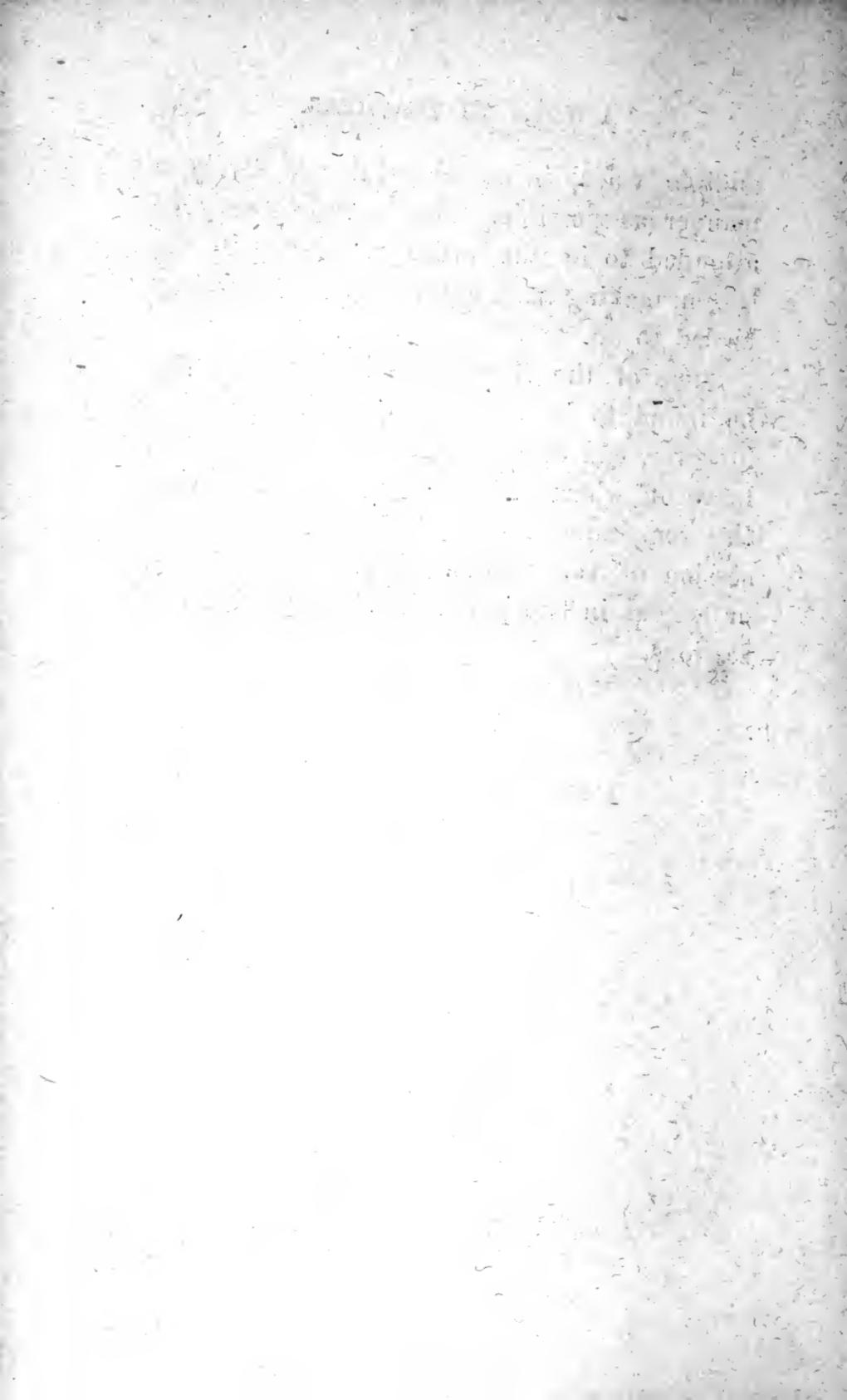
the questions for the sake of hearing what you have to say.

The lessons are to be used as sacred historical *stories*; and in regard to variety, change, and exercise, as well as style, as a means of conveying instruction, comprise all that may be needed to carry out the infant-school system of instruction, and are perfect in themselves: yet, where teachers would wish to enlarge upon them, the field is open for them. The lessons are designed to supply the teacher with themes for instruction, while they leave ample scope for the exercise of one's own talents and intelligence. By way of preparation, so as to make the lessons their own, and render them a success, it will be requisite for teachers to read over their lessons, perhaps, several times, and learn what is to be said and done.

In applying themselves to the teaching of the lesson, if there be time, let the first hymn in the lesson be memorized and sung; but, if there be not time, then let it be repeated by the children in concert two or three times over; after which the teacher may proceed to the reading or relating of the story of the lesson, which should be done with a clear,

audible voice, in as cheerful and lively a manner as possible. The exercises may be attended to in the order set down in the lesson, making such applications as they may be led to do.

Some of the New Testament lessons may be found to be too lengthy. The teachers, however, can consult their own convenience, leave off where it best suits them, reserving the remainder of the lesson for the next session of the school. The double lessons, or lessons in two parts, are designed for two sessions.



P A R T I.

Lessons from the Old Testament.



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THE
INFANT CLASS MANUAL.

PART I.

LESSONS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON I.

A B O U T T H E B O D Y .

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive them that trespass against us:

And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
And the glory forever, amen.

DEAR CHILDREN,—I suppose you know something about God; but I wish to talk with you, and tell you what the Bible says about him. Yes, 't is the Bible that tells us about God and ourselves, and about heaven

and hell. Would you not like to learn about those things? And will you not try to learn what I tell you?

What book is it that tells us about God, and about ourselves, and about heaven and hell? (Replies.)

God has done ever so many great and wonderful things. He made the sun and placed it up in the sky, and holds it there so it does not fall. God made every thing in the world at first, and he takes care of every thing he has made. If he did not take care of us we could not live at all.

Who made every thing in the world at first? (Replies.) God made every thing in the world at first; but besides that, what does he do for every thing he has made? (Replies.) If God did not take care of us, how would it be with us? (Replies.)

God is not like us. He lives every-where, he is all around us in this world, and he is in heaven, too. In every place that you can think of, God lives. You can not see God; but God can see you, for he is every-where.

Where does God live? (Replies: Yes, *he lives in heaven, and in this world, too.*) Is there any place that you can think of where

God does not live? (Replies.) Why can not you think of a place where God does not live? (Replies: *Because he is every-where.*) Where is God? (Replies.) How is it that God can be in heaven, and yet at the same time be all around us in this world, and *see us?* (Replies: It is because he is *every-where.*) Can we be every-where at once? (Replies.) Who is the only person that can be every-where at once? (Replies.)

We have said God made every thing at first. Yes, and he made you, and he has given every one of us a body, and your bodies are alive. A book, you know, is not alive; it is not warm, like your bodies; but is very cold; it has no breath as you have, nor can it move, for it has no life.

Who made you? (Replies.) What has God given every one of us? (Replies.) When our bodies have breath in them, what are we said to be? (Replies: *Said to be alive.*) Why is a book said to have no life? (Replies: Because *it has no breath* in it, it *can neither breathe nor move.*) A book can neither breathe nor move because, what? children. (Replies: Because *it has no life in it.*) What is the difference between you:

bodies and a book? (Replies: Our *bodies have life and breath in them*; but a book has no life.)

Your bodies have bones in them to make them strong; the bones are covered over with flesh. Feel your arms and see whether there is flesh over the bones; this makes them soft. The flesh has blood in it, and the skin is outside of this flesh, and covers it all over like a coat.

What have you in your bodies to make them strong? (Replies.) What are your bones covered over with? (Replies.) What is there in the flesh, and what is it? (Replies.) What is outside of the flesh, and covers it all like a coat? (Replies.)

Now you may learn and sing this verse about it.

(The children repeat in concert with the teacher.)

"My little body's formed by God,
'Tis made of living flesh and blood;
The slender bones are placed within,
And over all is laid the skin."

You see, children, God has made your bodies to live, and breathe, and move. He thinks of you every minute, or you could not breathe, but would die. God has made these bodies so that they must be fed,

for if you were not to eat any thing for a few days, you would die. Your breath would stop, and your heart would not beat, and your body would grow cold and stiff, like a stone.

If we would keep the body from dying, what must be done for it? (Replies: *It must be fed.*) It is easy to hurt the body. Did you ever cut your finger? Then you know how easy it is to hurt the body. It is easy to break the bones; did you ever see any one with his arm broken? And then a very little thing will make the body die. Fire will burn it, and water will drown it; and what can be done to the body so as to cause it to die? (Replies: *It may be hurt.*)

God has made your bodies to live, and breathe, and move; but then, how has he made them? (Replies: *He has made them so as to be fed, and to be kept from getting hurt, or they will die.*)

Yes, and every one of you may say, as the little verse says, which you may now repeat.

(The children repeat.)

“My little body’s very weak,
A fall or blow my bones might break,
The water soon might stop my breath,
The fire might close my eyes in death.”

You see, children, God has made your bodies so that you must take great care of them. You must do all you can to keep them from getting hurt, and from dying. But then no one can keep these bodies from all harm, and from dying, neither yourself nor any one else, but God only.

Even though we do all we can to keep these bodies from getting hurt, and from dying, can we either ourselves or any one else keep them from all harm, or from dying? (Replies: *We can not.*) Who alone can do it for us? (Replies.) Then, that you may remember how we can not, either ourselves or any one else, keep these bodies from all harm, that none but God only can do it, you may learn and say this verse:

(The children repeat.)

“But God can keep me by his care;
To him I'll say this little prayer;
O God, from harm my body keep,
Both when I wake and when I sleep.”

You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

“Our Father, who art in heaven,” etc.

LESSON II.

ABOUT GOD IN HIS PROVIDENCE; OR, THE CARE OF
MOTHER, FATHER, AND GOD.

"Great God, and wilt thou condescend
To be my Father and my Friend ?
I a poor child, and thou so high,
The Lord of earth, and air, and sky !

Art thou my Father ? canst thou bear
To hear my poor, imperfect prayer ?
Or stoop to listen to the praise
That such a little one can raise ?

Art thou my Father ? then at last,
When all my days on earth are past,
Send down and take me in thy love,
To be thy better child above."

YOUR bodies, children, were not always as big as they are now. Once you were very small, you were called little babies. You can take some care of yourselves now, but when you were babies you could not take any care of yourselves at all. Now you may see how very good God has been to you, for when you could not take care of yourselves God gave you kind mothers to take care of you and to do every thing for you that you needed and could not do for yourselves, and he gave you fathers to earn money to help

your mothers to get bread, and clothes, and every thing that you might need, when you were so very helpless and could not look out your own living.

Were you always as big as you are now? (Replies.) What were you called when you were so very small? (Replies.) You can take some care of yourselves now, but when you were babies, could you take any care of yourselves at all? (Replies.) Why not? (Replies.) What did God give you kind mothers for? (Replies.) What did God give you fathers for? (Replies.)

Yes, God caused both your mother and father to love you very dearly. Your mother does a great many things for you; and your father lets you live in his house, and gives you a part of his things to make you happy.

Why does your mother do so many things for you? (Replies: *She does them because she loves us and wishes to make us happy.*) Why does your father let you live in his house, and give you a part of his things? (Replies.) Who is it that causes both your mother and father to love you? (Replies.) When you were so very small and helpless, what did God give you that you might be

taken care of, and have bread, and clothes, and a home? (Replies.)

O, how you ought to love God for all his great goodness to you, children!

How are you to behave toward your parents? God teaches you in the Bible, children, that you must honor your mother and father; you must love them and be thankful to them for their love and care for you; you must be good children to them, always mind what they say, and do what they bid you. Children, never forget to honor your father and mother, for it is one of God's great commandments; if you break it you disobey both God and your parents.

You may now repeat the commandment of God about honoring your parents.

(The children repeat.)

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Now you may sing the verses about it.

(The children sing.)

"How sweetly does the time fly," etc.

Your father may die, and then you would be fatherless; but you would still have the

best of all fathers left. Yes, you have another father besides the one you have at home. God, who lives in heaven and everywhere, is your Father, and he loves you, and a great deal more than the one you live with does. He will take care of you when your father is dead. He says, I will be a Father to the fatherless. Your Father in heaven will never die; he looks at you and thinks of you every moment. He gives you a part of his things, and he wants you to come after awhile and live with him in heaven.

Who is your Father besides the one you have at home? (Replies.) Who is the best Father of all fathers? (Replies.) If the father you have at home were to die, what would you be? You would be fatherless, would you not? Then who would take care of you? (Replies.) What has God promised to be to the fatherless? (Replies.) Will your Father in heaven ever die? (Replies.) How much does your Heavenly Father love you? (Replies.) What does he do for you? (Replies.) Where does he wish to have you come and live after awhile? (Replies.) How much, then, you ought to love God your Father!

You may now repeat—or sing—the hymn in the beginning of the lesson.,

(The children sing.)

“Great God, and wilt thou condescend,” etc.



LESSON III.

ABOUT THE SOUL.

“There is an hour when I must die,
Nor do I know how soon ’twill come;
A thousand children, young as I,
Are call’d by death to hear their doom.

Let me improve the hours I have,
Before the day of grace is fled;
There’s no repentance in the grave,
Nor pardon offer’d to the dead.

Just as a tree cut down, that fell
To north or southward, there it lies,
So man departs to heaven or hell,
Fixed in the state wherein he dies.”

GOD made the animals, too. He made them and keeps them alive, just as he keeps you alive.

Who made you, children? (Replies.) Who made the animals? (Replies.) How does God keep the animals alive? (Replies: *Just as he keeps us alive.*)

And he made their bodies of bones, and

flesh, and blood, but if you look at any of them—your horse or cow, your dog, or cat, or chicken, or bird, or even a little fly or spider—you will see that their bodies are not like your bodies.

What are the bodies of animals made up of? (Replies.) But when you look at the bodies of any of the animals, what do you see? (Replies: *We see that their bodies are not made like our bodies.*)

But there is a greater difference than this between you and them. They can not think about God or any thing else; you can. They can not learn about him, nor love him.

What is it that animals can not do? (Replies.)

The Bible tells us that God has made us better than the birds or beasts. None of them have souls, they have only live bodies.

What is it that animals have only? (Replies.)

But you have both souls and bodies. When God made your body he put a soul in it, but when he made the bodies of the animals he did not put a soul in any of them.

What does the Bible tell us about the animals? (Replies: *It tells us that they have no*

souls.) When God made your bodies what did he put in them? (Replies.) What have you then? (Replies: *We have both bodies and souls.*) When God made the animals did he put a soul in any of them? (Replies: *He did not.*) Can not animals think about God, or of any thing else? Can not they learn about him and love him? (Replies: *They can not.*) Why not? (Replies: *They have no souls, and are only live bodies.*) How does the Bible say we are made? (Replies: *We are made better than the animals.*) What have we more than they? (Replies.)

You can now not only see, children, how your bodies are made quite different from the bodies of animals, your horse or cow, your dog, or cat, or chicken, or bird, or even a little fly or spider, but you can see what the great difference is between us and them—we have souls, and none of them have any.

There are some pretty verses that will help you to keep in mind about yourselves, how you are better than animals ; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

“My hands, how nicely they are made
To hold, and touch, and do;
I’ll try to learn some honest trade,
That will be useful, too.

My eyes, how fit they are to read,
And mind my work, and look;
I ought to think of that, indeed,
And use them at my book.

My tongue was truly never meant
To quarrel and to swear;
To speak the truth my tongue was lent,
And to be used in prayer.

My mind, for what can it be given ?
For thinking, to be sure;
That I might think of God and heaven,
And learn my faults to cure.

My heart, and all the fear and love
That in my bosom dwell;
My love was made for heaven above,
My fear, to fly from ill."

You can not see your soul, but God can see it. He knows just what you are thinking about now.

Can you see your soul? (Replies.) Can God see? (Replies.) Does God see just what you are thinking about now? (Replies.) How is it that God can see what you are thinking about? (Replies: *It is because he can see the soul.*)

Your souls are worth a great deal more than your bodies; for your bodies are made of dust, and will die; but your souls are made of the breath of God, and will never die nor grow old. What is your body made of?

(Replies.) What are your souls made of?
(Replies.) What part of you is it that will die? (Replies.) What part of you will never die nor grow old? (Replies.) Why can not the soul die? (Replies: *Because it is made of the breath of God.*)

When an animal dies it is altogether dead, for it has nothing but a body. But when your bodies die and are put in the ground, your souls will not be dead, also; for they will not lie in the grave. Even a baby has a soul, and when the baby's body dies and is put in the little coffin its soul is not dead. Its little body is dead, and in the coffin, and in the grave; but its soul is not in the coffin nor in the grave; for it can not die like the body. It has gone up to God.

When animals die, how is it with them?
(Replies.) Why are they altogether dead?
(Replies: *Because they have nothing but body.*) When your bodies die and are put in the grave, will your souls be dead, also, and in the grave? (Replies.) When the body is dead and in the coffin, and in the grave, why will not the soul be in the coffin and in the grave, also? (Replies: *Because it can not die like the body, neither can it be buried like the*

body.) And when it leaves the body where does it go? (Replies.)

A body with a soul in it is like a cage with a bird in it; when the door is open the bird flies out, leaving the cage behind, and goes where it pleases up in the air among the trees, or from place to place on the ground. So, dear children, the body has a door; death opens the door and lets the soul out. When the body dies the soul goes right out of it—leaves its cage and goes back to God. If the soul has been good and loved God while it was in the body, then God takes it into heaven to live with him forever. But if the soul has been wicked God will send it to hell, where the devil and his angels are.

What is the reason that the soul is worth more than the body? (Replies.) When the body dies, what does the soul do? (Replies.) Where does it go? (Replies.) And if it has been good while it lived in the body, what does God do with it? (Replies.) But if it has been wicked, then what does he do with it? (Replies.)

There are some verses that will suit this part of your lesson; you may repeat them.

"Though I am young, I have a soul
Can think, and love, and see,
And while eternal ages roll,
It will not, can not die.

For it will soar to worlds on high,
Where happy spirits dwell,
Or buried with the wicked lie,
Low in the depths of hell.

Pardon me, cleanse me, God of peace,
And let me holy be,
All dressed, like Christ, in holiness,
And fit to dwell with thee."

Our bodies have to die, but the Savior will make them alive again, and bring the soul back into them. When the Savior makes the body alive again, he will so that it will not die any more, it will live forever; the soul and body will not be parted again, but will live together forever. When the body is made alive again, and the soul brought back into its own body—this is called the *resurrection*.

Some day, children, what will have to happen to our bodies? (Replies.) But will the body and the soul never live together again? Though our bodies have to die, what does the Savior tell us he will do for them? (Replies.) When the body is made alive again, will it ever die any more? (Replies.) Why

not? (Replies: *Because when they are made alive again, our bodies are to be made so that they will never die.*) When the body is made alive again, and the soul brought back into its own body, what is this called? (Replies.) What is the resurrection? (Replies.) After the resurrection, will the soul ever have to leave the body? (Replies.) Why not? (Replies: *Because when the body is made alive again it is to be made so that the soul may live in it forever.*)

The Savior tells us that at the last day the trumpet of God shall sound, and that all who are in their graves shall hear his voice and come forth; that is, come out of their graves alive. Yes, no matter where their graves are, whether they are in the soft earth, or in the hard rock, or in the water, all shall hear the voice of the Savior and shall come out of their graves; they that have been good shall live with God forever, and they that have been wicked shall live with the devil forever.

When is the trumpet of God to sound? (Replies.) When are all who are in their graves to hear the voice of the Savior? (Replies.) Will it make any difference where their graves are? Will they hear his voice

just as well in one place as another—whether they are in the soft earth, or in the hard rock, or in the water? (Replies.) When the trumpet of God shall sound, and when all who are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Savior, what will happen? (Replies: *All who are in their graves will come out alive.*)

We have told you, children, how you have souls as well as bodies; that your bodies can die, and what they are made of; and that your souls can not die, and what they are made of; but which is worth more than the other, your souls or your bodies? (Replies.) Why so? (Replies.) We have told you how our bodies will have to die; and that the Savior tells us they will be made alive again, and made so that they will never die; and that the soul and body will never part again, and will live together forever; but, at what time will our bodies be made alive again, and the soul brought back in its own body? (Replies.) What did we say is called the resurrection? (Replies: *It is when the body is made alive again, and the soul brought back in its own body.*) We have told you about the soul when the body dies, what it does,

and what becomes of it; but then, after the resurrection, when the soul and body meets, not to part again, to live together forever, whom are the good to live with? (Replies.) How long? (Replies.) Whom are the wicked to live with? (Replies.) How long are the wicked to live with the devil? (Replies.) Which of the two, God or Satan, would you choose to live with? (Replies.)

You may now sing the first hymn in the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"There is an hour when I must die," etc.



LESSON IV.*

ABOUT THE GOOD ANGELS.

You know that God lives in heaven; what does he sit upon in heaven? He sits on a great white throne. He has no body, for he is a spirit.

Does he live in heaven alone? No; angels stand around his throne.

* NOTE TO TEACHERS.—The three foregoing lessons are deemed sufficient to show the method of teaching the lessons of this Manual. The teacher, therefore, in teaching, will now proceed,

Who are angels? Angels are spirits. They are bright like the sun, but they are not so bright as God, for he is brighter than the sun. The angels are always looking at God, and it is God who makes them shine so bright.

They sing sweet songs about God. They say, "How good God is, how wise, how great!"

There is no night in heaven, for the angels are never tired of singing, and they never wish to sleep. They are never sick, and they will never die.

They never weep; there are no tears upon their cheeks, but sweet smiles, for angels are always happy.

You may now repeat, as the little verse says:

"Their faces, like the sun, are bright,
And sweetest smiles they wear;
They never sleep—there is no night,
Nor need of candle there."

as occasion may require, to analyze the lessons themselves, by interrogating the children on what they have heard, so as to bring out the points of instruction to be impressed upon the mind.

Whenever the hymns and verses occur they may not only be illustrative, but may be made a pleasing exercise for the children. The teacher may at pleasure require the children, either sitting or standing, to repeat them in concert; sometimes changing the exercise of repeating to that of singing; and sometimes either of those exercises may be accompanied with suitable gestures.

If the angels were wicked they would be unhappy. Wickedness always makes people unhappy. Angels are quite good. They love God very much, and mind all he says. Yes, as the verse says:

(The children or the teacher repeat.)

“Around God’s throne above,
The happy angels stand,
And ever praise the God they love,
And fly at his command.”

They can fly very quickly. God sends them down here to take care of us. They are very strong, and can keep us from harm. But then they never go any where except when God sends them. God is their father. They have not two fathers, as you have. The angels are the children of God, and live in God’s house in heaven.

(Children.)

“But though the angels live on high,
They love us men below;
And hope to see us in the sky,
In garments white as snow.”

When you mind what your father tells you, then whom are you like? You are like the angels who mind God.*

*Peep of Day. Pages 30, 31.

(Let the children sing or repeat.)

"I want to be an angel,
And with the angels stand,
A crown upon my forehead,
A harp within my hand;
There, right before my Savior,
So glorious and so bright,
I'd make the sweetest music,
And praise him day and night.

I never should be weary,
Nor ever shed a tear,
Nor ever know a sorrow,
Nor ever feel a fear;
But blessed, pure, and holy,
I'd dwell in Jesus' sight,
And with ten thousand thousand,
I'd praise him day and night.

I know I'm weak and sinful,
But Jesus will forgive,
For many little children
Have gone to heaven to live.
Dear Savior, when I languish,
And lay me down to die,
O, send a shining angel,
To bear me to the sky!

O, there I'll be an angel,
And with the angels stand,
A crown upon my forehead,
A harp within my hand;
And there before my Savior,
So glorious and so bright,
I'll join the heavenly music,
And praise him day and night."

LESSON V.

OF THE WICKED ANGELS.

WHEN did God begin to live in heaven?
God always lived in heaven.

Once there were no such little children
as you; but there always was God.

No one made God; God was the first of all
things, and God made every thing.

A very long while ago God made the
angels.

How many angels did he make? No one
could tell how many. There were more than
can be counted. They were all good and
happy.

But some of the angels became wicked.
They left off loving God, and grew proud and
disobedient.

Would God let them stay in heaven after
they sinned? No; he cast them out, and put
them in chains, and shut them up in hell.

One of these bad angels was called Satan.
He was the chief, or prince of the bad
angels. He is called the devil. The devil
is very wicked, and hates God.

He can never go back to heaven again, but he comes here where we live, and other devils come also.

We can not see Satan, because he is a spirit; but he is always walking about, and trying to make people naughty.

Satan loves mischief; he does not wish to be good. It pleases Satan to see people in pain and in tears, but it pleases him best to see them wicked, because then he thinks they will come and live with him in his dark place. He wishes that there should be a great many people in hell, so he tries to make us do wicked things, and to keep us from praying to God.*

These are some verses, children, which you may now learn and sing:

(The children sing.)

"There is beyond the sky
A heaven of joy and love;
And holy children when they die,
Go to that world above."

There is a dreadful hell,
And everlasting pains;
There sinners must with devils dwell,
In darkness, fire, and chains."

*This and the following lesson we copied from the little work, "The Peep of Day." Lesson VI. Pages 33-36.

LESSON VI.

MORE ABOUT SATAN.

I CAN not tell you how very bad Satan is. He is very cruel, for he likes to give pain. He is a liar, and teaches people to tell lies. He is proud, and wishes people to mind him more than God. He is envious, and can not bear to see people happy.

The devil hopes very much that you will come and be with him when you die. He knows, that if you are bad like him, you will live with him. So he tries to make you like himself. When you are in a passion, you are like the devil. When you say, "I don't care," you are like the devil. When you think yourself good, you are proud, like the devil.

Can God keep you from minding the devil? Yes, he can; God is a great deal stronger than Satan. Besides this, God is always near you, for God is every-where. Now, Satan can not be every-where at the same time. It is true that Satan has a great many bad angels, who go where he tells them; and

that Satan and his angels come near you very often. But God is always with you; he is before you and behind you; he is on every side of you; he is about your bed when you are asleep, and about your path when you walk. Therefore you need not be afraid of Satan; only ask God to help you, and he will do so.

Satan is much stronger than you are; but God is stronger than all. If any body were to come to hurt you when you were alone, you would be frightened; but if you saw your father coming, you would run to him, and you would not be frightened any more. Now, God is your father; he can keep Satan from hurting you. Pray to him, and say, "O, dear Father, keep me from being wicked, like the devil, and from going to hell."

(Let the following lines be repeated by the class in concert.)

"Now, if I fight,
And scratch, and bite,
In passions fall,
And bad names call,
Full well I know
Where I shall go.

Satan is glad
When I am bad,
And hopes that I
With him shall lie

In fire and chains,
With dreadful pains.

All liars dwell
With him in hell,
And many more,
Who cursed and swore,
And all who did
What God forbid.

And I have not
Done what I ought;
I am not fit
With God to sit,
And angels bright
All clothed in white.

I will confess
My naughtiness;
And will entreat
For mercy sweet.
O Lord, forgive,
And let me live!

My body must
Be turned to dust;
Then let me fly
Beyond the sky,
And see thy face
In that sweet place."

LESSON VII.

ABOUT GOD—GOD OR THE BIBLE.

My dear children, God is a spirit. A spirit is one who can think, and love, and see, without a body. God is from everlasting to ever-

lasting; that is, he has always lived, and will never die, therefore he is said to be *eternal*. And he is every-where present, and fills every place with his Spirit.

“In the sun, the moon, the sky,
On the mountain, wild and high,
In the thunder, in the rain,
In the wood, the grove, the plain,
In the little birds which sing,
God is seen in every thing.”

Yes, children, God is every-where present, and he knows every thing; and he sees every thing, and nothing is hid from his sight; and every little child may say:

“I’m not too young for God to see,
He knows my name and nature too;
And all day long he looks at me,
And sees my actions through and through.”

God tells us about himself, and about his mighty acts; that is, the great things which he has done in this world.

The Bible is the book of God—for Bible means book. The Bible is called the Book of God, and the Word of God, because he caused it to be written. Holy men of old wrote it as God moved them by his Spirit. The Bible was given to us to make us wise and good, holy and happy; and is the best

book in the world, for God is its author.
We may say of the Bible:

"This is a precious book indeed,
Happy the child that learns to read;
'T is God's own book which he has given,
To show our souls the way to heaven.

It tells us how the world was made,
And how good men the Lord obey'd;
Here his commands are written, too,
To teach us what we ought to do."

LESSON VIII.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART FIRST.

THE first thing the Bible tells us about is how God made the world, this large and beautiful place where we live. The blue sky is spread out like a curtain above our heads, and the green grass, sprinkled with flowers, is like a carpet under our feet, and the sun is in the sky to give us light.

"God made the sky that looks so blue,
God made the grass so green,
God made the flowers that smell so sweet,
In pretty arbors seen.

God made the sun that shines so bright,
It rises in the east,
It comes to give us heat and light,
And then sets in the west."

The Bible tells us God made the world and all things therein—water and land, mountains, hills, and valleys, plants, flowers, trees, and fruits, and animals, and man, in six days.

"God made the cow to give nice milk,
The horse for us to use;
I'll treat him kindly for his sake,
Nor dare his gifts abuse.

God made the water for my drink,
God made the fish which swim;
God made the trees to bear nice fruit,
Which does my taste so nicely suit;
O how should I love him!"

When God made the world he was in heaven with all the good angels around him. But God is such a great spirit, or being, he can see every thing in heaven and earth, all at once. Yes, God sees them all at once; and no one can do that, children, but God. Yes, he not only sees every thing in heaven and earth, but he sees every thing in the sun, and moon, and in all the stars, and even in hell, all at once. And he knows every thing that has been done, and ever will be done; he knows what the angels think about, and what the devils think, and he knows the thoughts of the hearts of all men. He sees and knows all at once, just what

angels, and men, and devils are thinking and doing.

"In heaven he smiles with beams of love,
With wrath in frowns beneath;
'T is on his earth I stand and move,
And 't is his air I breathe.

His hand is my perpetual guard,
He keeps me with his eye;
Why do I then forget the Lord,
Who is forever nigh?"

LESSON IX.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART SECOND.

GOD is a holy God. He thinks and does every thing that is right. And he is wise as well as holy, for he knows the best way to do the most good. And his power is so great he can do whatever he pleases. God made the world by the word of his power; he spoke and it was done.

A lady was once writing for children; and now, my little ones, I will tell you something of what she said. She said, "*My dear children*, I know that you have heard that God made the world. Could a man have

made the world? No; a man could not make such a world as this.

"A man can make many things, such as boxes and baskets. Perhaps you know a man who can make a box. Suppose you were to shut him up in a room which was quite empty, and say to him, 'You shall not come out till you have made a box.' Would the man ever come out? No, never. A man could not make a box unless he had something to make it of. He must have some wood, or some tin, or some pasteboard, or some other thing. But God had nothing to make the world of. He only spoke, and it was made. Making things out of nothing is called 'creating.' No one can create anything but God.

"Do you know why God is called the Creator? It is because he created all things. There is only one Creator. Angels can not create things, nor can men. They could not create one drop of water, nor one little fly."

LESSON X.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART THIRD.

WE have said, children, that God made the world by the word of his power. I think from the last lesson you can now very easily see we mean by this that he did not take any thing to make it of, but made it out of nothing. You know the man who makes a box, must have something to make it of; but God did not need any thing to make it of, for his power is so great he could make it just by speaking.

“All things the mighty Lord
Created by his word;
And all his creatures are,
From worm to brightest star;
To make one little fly,
His wonders none can imitate,
Or out of nothing can create.”

When a man is going to build a house, he orders all the things he wants to make it of to be brought to the place where it is to be built—the brick, the sand, and lime, and the timber, that is, the beams, planks, and boards; also, the things for the light, the

window sashes and glass, and every thing he needs—all is brought to the place.

So, on the first day God created the matter of the earth and of the light. He did not do any thing, he just spoke, and every thing he wanted to make the world of was made, and was altogether in one great mass or lump of matter; just, children, as if you were to take some earth and water and mix them together, and so make the water and earth into one mass or lump of soft mud which can be divided or put into any shape or form you please. We mean by the matter, that at first, when the earth was made, every thing was mixed up together; the water and land were not divided, and there were no trees nor plants, no grass nor flowers; and the light was not divided into sun, and moon, and stars.

LESSON XI.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART FOURTH.

MY dear children, I wish you not to forget that God was six days in making the world. In the beginning God created the matter of the earth and the light.

"And God said, Let there be light! and there was light."

"And God called the light day, and the darkness he called night. And the evening and the morning were the first day."

God made the air. You can not see the air, but you can feel it, and sometimes when it makes a noise you can hear it, for the air is wind. When you look up in the sky you can see the clouds. God made them up where you see them. The clouds are water, and when the water comes down upon the earth it is called rain.

Now by this time, the end of the first day or the beginning of the second day, there was a great deal of water, there was nothing but water to be seen about the earth.

So on the second day God made the large place or space from the earth, away up to where the sun, and moon, and all the stars are. And he filled every place with air. He divided the waters ; that is, he took some of the water which we said was about the earth, and made the clouds up in the sky where you see them.

Now, children, when you look up you have a beautiful heaven to look at, the sun is there, and the moon, and all the stars are there, and the clouds are there, and the beautiful large place or space between us and the heaven is filled with air, and the light shines through all.

LESSON XII.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART FIFTH.

DEAR children, I wish you to keep in mind that when God was creating on the second day, he did not *do* any thing any more than he did on the first, he only spoke, for he made every thing by speaking.

I wish you also to keep in mind, children,

that when every thing was ready for God to speak the second time, there was a great deal of water about the earth, and that there was nothing but water to be seen.

I will now tell you what God said when he spoke the second time, for I think by this time you can understand something of what he said when he spoke.

"And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And it was so. And God called the firmament heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day."

God just spoke, and in the very place where the water was, the large, clear place you see all above us and around us, was made and filled with air, and the clouds were in the place as you see them above you very high up in the sky.

The firmament or heaven which God made upon the second day, children, is both above us and around us, it is the great clear place where all the lights are put, the sun, and moon, and stars, and where the clouds are; and all around us where the air moves and the light comes down upon us.

You see, children, what great power there is in God's word. When he speaks what great things are done!

LESSON XIII.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART SIXTH.

WE have said, children, that at first the world was one great mass of matter like soft mud; and that by the end of the first day there was a great deal of water in the world, that there was nothing to be seen everywhere, in the world and about it, but water.

Now, you know that on the second day God divided the waters and made a part of it into clouds, still there was no dry land in the world. As yet all was water.

There was, indeed, earth, but then it was like grains of sand in water, or, at least, it could not be seen for water.

So God spoke again. He made a very large, deep place to hold the water; and he gathered the waters into the place which he had prepared for them, and the dry land was seen. When God spoke he said, "Let the

waters under the heaven—that is, the water of the world—be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so. And God called the dry land earth, and the gathering together of the waters he called seas."

The sea, children, is ever rolling up and down, and tossing itself about, but it can not come out of the place where God has put it, for he has said to it, "Stay thou there."

When God spoke to the water, and said, "Let the dry land appear," the waters ran down and rushed into the great, deep place he had made for it; and now there was dry land to grow trees. So God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, and the herb, and the fruit tree;" and it was so.

And the evening and the morning were the third day.



LESSON XIV.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART SEVENTH.

You will remember, children, that on the first day God created the matter of the earth

and of the light. We have told you how God made the world into water and land; and how he covered the earth or land with soft, green grass, that had its sweet little flowers full of seeds, and caused the trees and the plants to come out of the ground; and how he made a place for the air, and the clouds, and for the light, which was called the firmament or heaven. But, as yet, God had not divided the light.

So God spoke again. He made two great lights, and put them away up high in the firmament, above the clouds, so the light could come down, or shine upon our world. He made the sun to give us light by day, and the moon to give us light by night. He made the stars also; so we could always have a little light in the earth. Besides, he made the great lights to cause Winter, Spring, Summer, and Autumn, and so divided our time in days and years.

Now let me tell you what God said when he spoke.

"And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years.

"And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth ; and it was so.

"And the evening and the morning were the fourth day."

CHILD.

"I saw the glorious sun arise,
O'er yonder mountain gray;
And as he traveled through the skies,
The darkness went away;
And all around me was so bright,
I wished it would be always light.

But when his shining course was done,
The gentle moon drew nigh,
And stars came twinkling, one by one,
Upon the shady sky.
Who made the sun to shine so far,
The moon, and every twinkling star?

MAMMA.

'Twas God, my child, who made them all,
By his almighty skill;
He keeps them, that they do not fall,
And guides them as he will;
That glorious God, who lives afar,
In heaven beyond the highest star."

JANE TAYLOR.

LESSON XV.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART EIGHTH.

WE have said, children, that God made the world, and all things therein, in six days. On the first day he created the matter of the earth and of the light; and on the second day he created the firmament, or heaven; and on the third day he made the sea and dry land, and caused the trees, plants, and vegetables to come forth; and on the fourth day he made the sun, moon, and stars.

The world was now finished, and every thing about it was very beautiful. But as yet there was not a creature in it that had life and breath and could move, neither on the land nor in the water. Yes,

“When God first clothed the earth with green,
And sprinkled it with flowers,
There were no living creatures seen
Within its pleasant bowers.”

But God spoke again. Yes, and

“Soon by his word God filled the earth,
And waters underneath,
With things above the plants in worth,
That feel, and move, and breathe.”

Now, children, I will tell you what God said when he spoke: "God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creatures that hath life, and fowl that fly in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the water brought forth abundantly after his kind, and every winged fowl after his kind. And God blessed the fishes in the waters and the fowls on the land. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day."

"The fishes, covered o'er with scales,
In ocean swiftly glide;
With their vast tails the wondrous whales
Scatter the waters wide.

The birds among the branches sing,
And chirps the nightingale;
The peacock shines with painted wing,
The dove does softly wail."



LESSON X VI.

GOD, OR THE WORLD.

PART NINTH.

ON the fifth day, as you know, dear children, God spoke to the waters, and all kinds of fowls or birds, and all kinds of fish were

created. Some of the fish were very small, and some were very large, such as the whale—the whale is very large. But God made the other living creatures, the fowls to be more beautiful than the fishes; when God spoke all sorts of birds, of all sizes, from very small ones to very large ones, like the eagle, came out of the water; they flew out of the water, children, covered with beautiful feathers, of all colors, and perched upon the trees, and sang among the branches, and so filled the air with their music.

The fish were made to move and live in the water, and the birds were made to move in the air and live among the trees on the land.

You see, children, there were no living creatures of any sort for the dry land.

So God spoke to the earth, and this is what he said :

“Let the earth bring forth the living creature, cattle, and creeping things, and beasts of the earth : and it was so.”

When God spoke, all kinds of beasts and cattle—that is, animals that walk on four feet—such as the lion, the cow, the sheep, and horse, came out of the ground, and the

creeping thing, also—that is, all kinds of insects—such as worms, and ants, and bees, that creep or crawl upon the earth.

Yes, when God spoke, and in the power of his word,

“The beasts tread firmly on the ground;”

and

“Insects with humming fill the air,
And sparkle in the sun.”

God had now filled the world, the air, the waters, and the land with living creatures—birds, fishes, beasts, and insects.

“Pleasure the whole creation fills:
They leap, they swim, they fly;
They skim the plains, they climb the hills,
Or in the valleys lie.”

These creatures and animals moved and breathed; and God said they were all good; God was good to them, he fed them every day, and keeps them alive.

“With herbs for food the Lord provides
His numerous family;
The lion with the lamb abides,
The dove and hawk agree.”

But then, children, not one of these living creatures that God had made had a soul like you. They all have bodies, but no souls.

LESSON XVII.

THE TRIUNE GOD—THE WORLD, OR THE CREATION OF MAN.

PART TENTH.

THE Bible tells us, dear children, there is but one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; these three are one God. God is good, he provides for the happiness of all his creatures. Yes, he never changes; he is the same God yesterday, to-day, and forever, always good and holy.

Now, as you have seen, children, from all that we have told you, although God had been so good to the animals which he had made, for he made them good, and gave them bodies to make them happy, and provided food for them for every day, and kept them alive, yet they had no souls; so they could not think of God, nor even thank him for all his goodness to them.

You see, children, there was not one living creature in all the world who knew anything about God. There was not one of all the living creatures, either insect, beast, fish, or

fowl who could look out upon the beautiful earth, and up to the blue sky, upon the glorious sun, and then look up to God and thank and praise him for his great works, and for all his goodness.

So, God spoke again. But he did not speak as he had done before, when he made the creatures, or animals, which had no souls. He did not speak to the earth, nor to the water. He spoke to himself. He said, "Let us make man. God created man in his own image and likeness. He formed his body from the dust of the earth, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul." That is, God, in the act of breathing into the nostrils of man, gave man an immortal soul, or a spirit that would never die. A soul or spirit, children, is that within us, that thinks when our eyes are shut, and when our bodies are asleep.

"Though I am young I have a soul,
Can think, and love, and see;
And while eternal ages roll,
It will not, can not die."

LESSON XVIII.

GOD, OR THE WORLD AND THE DOMINION OF MAN—
GOD, OR THE REST.

PART ELEVENTH.

GOD created one man and one woman. And God said, "Let them have dominion;" that is, let them be the head, and have power over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

And God blessed them, and gave them the fruit of the trees for their food; God gave them the earth for their home, and he gave them every thing that he had made on the earth, and all the living creatures for their use. There are some verses about this earth, as our home. You may now learn and say them:

"To our great Creator, our Father in heaven,
We will render our thanks for this home he has
given;
His goodness has kept us—his bounty and care
Have crowned with rich blessings each swift-roll-
ing year.
Home, home, sweet, sweet home,
This beautiful planet, this earth is our home.

And when all our days will be ended below,
To a far happier world may each one of us go,
To our dear heavenly home of our Father above,
Where his children shall ever rejoice in his love.
Home, home, sweet, sweet home,
May that be our home, our glorious home!"

"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold it was *very* good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."

On the seventh day, children, God did not create or make any thing, for on that day he rested from all his work. On the seventh day the heavens and the earth, and all his works were finished: so he blessed the seventh day, and set it apart for a day of rest. And he said it should be a day of rest forever. The seventh day, then, is the Lord's, because on that day he rested from the work of creating, and it is called the Sabbath.

"This day belongs to God alone,
He chooses Sunday for his own,
And we must neither work nor play,
Because it is God's holy day.
'Tis well to have one day in seven
For us to learn the way to heaven.

O let us love this blessed day,
And turn from sin, and read and pray;
And every Sabbath should be passed
As if we knew it were our last.
For what would dying sinners give
To have one Sabbath more to live?"

LESSON XIX.

MAN, OR ADAM AND EVE.

PART FIRST.

THE Bible tells us, children, that man's body was formed from the dust of the earth, and that his spirit came from God, as we told you in the last lesson. And I will now tell you something more of what God has told us in his Word, about the creation of man.

God made man in his own image and likeness, good, holy, and happy. That is, men were not like what they are now, who have no religion, wicked in their hearts, wicked in their heads, and wicked in their actions, but they were good. So God, the Holy Spirit, could live in man's heart. And because his heart was full of the love of God, he was both good and holy, or religious. He always acted right, and pleased God in every thing, in all his thoughts, and words, and actions; and loved God more than any thing else—he loved God better than the world, or any of the things which God had given him.

And because he was good and had religion, he was happy. You know people who are wicked and have no religion are very unhappy. They do not feel right, they are dissatisfied in their hearts with themselves, they feel as if there was something wrong; so they are not pleased with any thing they have, and do not like God's ways, and are always wanting something that they have not got.

There were just two persons on the earth at first, one man and one woman. God made the man first, and afterward he made the woman. God caused a deep sleep to come upon the man, and then, while the man was asleep, he took out one of his ribs; and out of that rib God made the woman.

The man was called Adam, because his body was taken from the earth. God brought the animals which he had made to Adam, and he gave them names. And Adam called his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

LESSON XX.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN, OR ADAM AND EVE.

PART SECOND.

GOD placed Adam and Eve in a beautiful garden, called "Eden," where there were all kinds of fruits, and flowers, and trees, and rivers of water, but no weeds, nor thorns, nor thistles. There were pretty birds and animals there also.

God told Adam to take care of the garden. God came into the garden every day, and talked with Adam and Eve like a friend. He loved them because they were good and holy, and loved God. And as long as they obeyed God they were happy. When God had finished his work of creating, he looked over all his works, and said every thing that he had made was good. The earth, with her green grass, and trees, and rivers, was beautiful. The sky, with its sun, moon, and stars, was glorious; the air was sweet and pure; the animals, birds, fishes, beasts, and insects were pretty and good, and the garden was lovely; yet there was none of all the crea-

tures that God had made but man that had a soul, and could think of God, and had a heart to love him, and a tongue to speak his praise.

Man, then, was the best of all God's works, and was loved the most.

LESSON XXI.

GOD—MAN: HIS IMMORTALITY, OR THE TREE OF LIFE—GOD'S LAW, OR THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.

PART THIRD.

God is a just God, he gives to every one that which is right they should have. God is also a true God, he tells us of things just as they are, and shall be. All God's words are true.

God formed man for happiness; and gave him his holy law to tell him what to do, so that he could be always happy and please God. Happy in his body, happy in his soul, happy in his God, he was happy in every thing which God had given to him, and loved to do the things that God told him he must do. God made his soul and body so they

could be happy, and live right on and on, both soul and body, without dying, if he obeyed God and kept his commandments.

Now, there was one tree in the Garden of Eden called "the Tree of Life," and as long as Adam and Eve obeyed God and kept his commandments, God let them eat of this tree and live forever. By eating, then, of the Tree of Life, their bodies were kept from dying.

But, children, there was another tree in the Garden of Eden, called, "the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil," of which the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of the fruit of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the fruit of the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil thou shalt not eat of it, for in the day thou eatest of it thou shalt surely die."

This commandment, children, was the Law that God gave to Adam and Eve, and while they kept this law they were happy indeed. They did not wish to break the law God had made, for they loved God and delighted to obey him. They knew that God loved them and was their friend.

LESSON XXII.

THE TEMPTER; OR, ADAM AND EVE, AND THEIR SIN.

PART FOURTH.

DEAR children, we have told you that Adam and Eve loved God, and loved to obey him. But, children, there was one who did not love God, and, as you will remember, that was Satan. He hated God, and was his enemy, because God was holy. And he hated and envied Adam and Eve, because God loved them, and because they were so much like God, and were so happy; so he thought he would try to get them away from God—he would persuade them to be disobedient to God; and in this way he would bring them, and all their children, into sin and misery; and he would have them for his own.

Now, Satan did not wish to let Adam and Eve see who he was, so he came into the garden in the shape of a serpent, and talked with Eve. He asked her why she did not eat of the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil? She told him God had

said, if they ate of it they should surely die. Then he told her that to eat of that tree would make her wise like God, and that she would not die, as God had said. Eve listened to what he said, and looked at the fruit.

Now, as Eve looked at the fruit, she thought it was good, and she thought she would like to have some of it. So she took of the fruit and ate some of it, and gave some to her husband, and he did eat of it.

Adam and Eve ought not to have listened to Satan, because he contradicted the God of truth, and made him out a liar. They ought to have believed God. They ought to have resisted Satan, and driven him away immediately out of the garden, and not let him be there one moment.

To do that which God forbids us to do, children, is sin. When Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit they became sinners; so God took the Holy Spirit away out of their hearts, for God could not let his Holy Spirit stay in a heart that was full of sin. And now they were not like God, holy and happy, but they were like Satan, and had wicked hearts.

Adam and Eve felt themselves guilty of

disobedience to God and were ashamed. And now that they did not love God as they had done, they were afraid of him, and did not wish to see him, and hid themselves among the trees of the garden.

I think, children, you can see from this what it is to have a soul that can not die, and yet be dead in trespasses and sins. The souls of Adam and Eve were now dead; for in the act of eating the forbidden fruit they let Satan come into their hearts, and lost God out of their souls.

This kind of death, children, is called spiritual death, because the soul leaves God and takes Satan for its master.

LESSON XXIII.

GOD—GOD, OR ADAM AND EVE—THE SERPENT CURSED.

PART FIFTH.

AFTER Adam and Eve had eaten of the forbidden fruit, the Lord God came into the garden, in the cool of the day, just as he had done at other times.

Now, as he was walking in the garden to pay

them a visit, they hid themselves, for, as you know, from our last lesson, they knew they had done what God had forbidden them to do, and were ashamed, and did not wish to see God.

Now, as they were not to be seen, and were not in their places, ready to see the Lord when he came, the Lord called them, saying, "Adam, where art thou?" and Adam answered and said, "I was afraid and hid myself."

Then the Lord asked him if he had eaten of the forbidden tree? And Adam confessed his fault, but laid the blame on the woman, and said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat."

Then the Lord said to the woman, "What is this that thou hast done?" and the woman answered and said, "The serpent beguiled me and I did eat;" that is, he deceived me, or made me believe a lie.

Then the Lord cursed the serpent, and told Satan what would *be done* to him, and punished Adam and Eve.

LESSON XXIV.

GOD, OR THE PUNISHMENT OF ADAM AND EVE.

PART SIXTH.

GOD can not let sin go unpunished. Sin must be punished in some way.

We have said, children, that God punished Adam and Eve. Yes, God told them what trouble they should have. He said they should have pain and sickness, especially Eve; and that the ground should be cursed, and bring forth thorns and thistles, and that man should work hard to get his bread, and eat it in sorrow while life should last; and that, at the last, he should return to the ground from which he was taken; that is, his body which was taken from the dust, was to turn into dust again.

And now the Lord God would not permit Adam and Eve to live in the beautiful garden any more, so he drove them both out of the garden, and put angels at the door of the garden, with a flaming sword, which turned every way, to keep them from ever going back into the garden, and from getting to the

Tree of Life again; for their bodies were to die and turn into dust again. If they ate of the Tree of Life that tree would keep their bodies from dying.

"No more shall Eve or Adam stay
Within that garden fair;
An angel stands to guard the way,
That none may enter there.

Yet murmur not, O wretched pair,
Against the Lord most high;
He made you happy, great, and fair,
And warned you not to die."

LESSON XXXV.

GOD, OR THE PROMISE—GOD, OR THE OVERTHROW OF SATAN—ADAM AND EVE COMFORTED.

PART SEVENTH.

"Father, how great thy love to man,
To send thy Son from high?
How great thy love, O glorious Son,
To come, and bleed, and die!"

THE Bible tells us, dear children, that God is not only a just God, and a true God, but that he is also a merciful God. He does good to the wicked, and saves them if they repent and believe in the Savior of the world.

Dear children, let us thank and praise the

Lord God from our very hearts for his mercy to us.

But, before the Lord sent Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden, he showed great pity for them. He spoke kindly to them, and gave them some comfort by giving them a promise. He said the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. The person meant by the seed of the woman, children, was the Lord Jesus—and to bruise was to conquer. And the one meant by the serpent was Satan—and the serpent's head was Satan's power. And when the promise says, "The seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head," it means that the power of Satan shall be overthrown, or destroyed, by the Lord Jesus.

Yes, Adam and Eve sinned, and deserved to be sent, not only out of the garden, but they deserved to be sent away from God, where they could never walk and talk with him any more, nor have his Holy Spirit in their hearts again, and to be forever miserable. Yet God cared for their poor souls, and he cared for their poor bodies, too: he promised them a blessed Savior, who would come and die for them; so he forgave them their sins,

and made clothes for them of the skins of animals.

We look at Adam and Eve, children, as they stand in the presence of God.

They have broken God's commandment, and expect to die. They are sinners. You see how helpless they are; they can not do any thing to save themselves. God is talking to them. He loves them. He is merciful to them.

"And now he kindly promises
To wash your sins away,
And let you taste of happiness,
Which never shall decay.

This promise, too, will cost him dear,
But, O, his love is great;
His only Son must suffer here,
And die mid scorn and hate."

LESSON XXVI.

ADAM AND EVE, OR PARADISE LOST—ADAM AND EVE, OR A SAVIOR.

PART EIGHTH.

"Adam and Eve in Eden lived,
A garden sweet and fair;
Their Maker's presence they enjoyed,
And every good was there.

One tree that in the garden stood,
God bade them not to take;

But, O, to eat the fruit they dared,
And his commandment brake.

Then did the Lord his angel send,
And drove them from the place;
Then sinful man in grief did spend
All his remaining days.

O let me never, never dare
To disobey the Lord,
And even now my heart prepare
To learn his holy Word."

IT is true, children, our first parents had to leave their happy home which God, their Father, and their Friend, had given to them; the home where they did not have to work hard to get their food and clothes. They did not have to put seed and plants in the ground, as our farmers do now, to grow grain, and trees, and vegetables, for food; for every thing they had need of grew in the garden, just as God had commanded it to grow. They had nothing to do to make their food grow; all they had to do was to gather it and eat it. Neither did they have to make any clothes, for before they sinned they did not need clothes. All they had to do was to take good care of every thing God had given them. They never had any pain nor sickness, nor trouble of any kind. Every thing they did was a pleasure to them; and

they had the best company there was in heaven or earth, for the great King of heaven and of the whole world came to see them every day. Their Eden home was so full of pleasure, and no trouble, it was called a paradise.

But, then, before they left this home of joy and love, where all was happiness; even the animals, children, were tame; none of them were wild, as they are now, for God made them good:

“The lion and the lamb abides,
The dove and hawk agree;

In all the woods no sound of strife
Or piteous groans arise,
None takes away his fellow’s life,
And none expiring dies”—

we say, children, that before they had to leave their home where there was no sorrow, no pain, no sickness, no death, they had some comfort in their hearts. But now they had to go out and work hard to get food and clothing, and have many troubles and sorrows, and at last their bodies were to die, and be buried in the ground, whence they would turn into dust again; but they had a Savior to trust in, who was to come into the world to die to save

them. They knew that their sins were forgiven, and their souls saved from death; that is, the death which sin causes, for you know the soul can not die, but will live forever—sin takes the soul from God.

LESSON XXVII.

SATAN AND OUR FIRST PARENTS, OR THE DISAPPOINTMENT.

PART NINTH.

DEAR children, Satan was now greatly disappointed, as you may suppose; for the Lord told him, in the promise which he gave to our first parents, "The seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head," that his power was to be overthrown. He knew from this promise there would be one day a child born who would destroy all his power. He knew now there was one who would come into the world to save Adam and Eve, and that he would not get them or any of their children, who might be born into the world, and should be saved by the Savior who was to come, as he had hoped, when he came into the garden of Eden, in the body of an ani-

mal, to deceive Eve, and contradicted the God of truth, and tried to bring them into sin and misery with himself.

“God, unto thee I’ll lift my prayer,
He’ll hear an infant’s cry;
‘Save me, O God, lest I shall share
In Satan’s misery!’”

LESSON XXVIII.

SATAN AND OUR FIRST PARENTS, OR THE DISAPPOINTMENT.

PART TENTH.

WHEN Satan and his angels first sinned in heaven, and tried to be greater than God, God cast him, and all the angels who sinned with him, out of heaven, and put them in the place of punishment which the Bible calls “hell.”

And now Satan tried to be king again. He did not try this time to be king over God, for God had conquered him and cast him out of heaven. But he tried to be the king of this world. He thought if he could only get Adam and Eve to disobey God, then he would be their king instead of God. As he hated God, and was his enemy, he would

ruin the very best of all God's works in this world, and bring them under his power and control, and be the head or prince of this world.

Satan knew that Adam and Eve had a spirit in them that would never die. And he knew that the Tree of Life kept their bodies from dying, and that they were made to live forever. But he knew too, right well, if they broke the commandment of God, that they would be immediately dead in sin, and that was just what he wanted them to be; for he knew if he could only persuade them to disobey God, and become sinners like himself, then they would belong to him.

Satan enticed Adam and Eve away from God; he persuaded them to believe they would not die as God had said, and that they would be wise like God, and in this way brought them under his own power. Now he was sure they were his; he thought he had them soul and body forever. He thought, too, as Adam and Eve belonged to him, he would have all their children, and that he was now the God of this world, and that all the people would serve him instead of the God of both heaven and earth.

LESSON XXIX.

SATAN AND OUR FIRST PARENTS, OR THE DISAPPOINTMENT.

PART ELEVENTH.

DEAR children, Adam and Eve let Satan come into their hearts, and now Satan thought all was right, that he was now the god and prince of this world, and that he would be the head one of the people of this earth, as well as the prince chief of the wicked angels in hell. But then Satan does not know every thing. He was soon disappointed, for he knew from the promise that he had already lost our first parents. He knew there would now be another Prince, who would one day take the world all away from him and give it back to God. And that great Prince or King, children, is the Lord Jesus.

The promise has told Satan that the Lord Jesus will overthrow all his power, but he is still trying to get souls from God, and to keep this world from the Lord Jesus. Satan may try to keep the world in his own power, but he can not conquer; for the Savior of

the world is God as well as man, and no one on earth or in hell, or in heaven itself, can be greater than God.

My dear little ones, when you are trying to be good, and love the Lord Jesus, and try to get others to do the same, you are little soldiers, fighting for the Lord Jesus in the great battle against Satan.

"O! do not be discouraged,
For Jesus is your friend;
O! do not be discouraged,
For Jesus is your friend.
He will give you grace to conquer,
He will give you grace to conquer,
And keep you to the end.

CHORUS.

I am glad I'm in this army,
Yes, I'm glad I'm in this army,
Yes, I'm glad I'm in this army,
And I'll battle for the Lord.

Fight on, ye little soldiers,
The battle you shall win;
Fight on, ye little soldiers,
The battle you shall win.
For the Savior is your captain,
For the Savior is your captain,
And he has conquered sin.

CHORUS.—I am glad I'm in this army, etc.

And when the conflict's over,
Before him you shall stand;
And when the conflict's over,
Before him you shall stand.

You shall sing his praise forever,
 You shall sing his praise forever,
 In Canaan's happy land.

CHORUS.—I am glad I'm in this army, etc.



LESSON XXX.*

ADAM AND EVE—THE REVIEW.

PART FIRST.

You know, children, God told Adam and Eve if they should eat of the forbidden fruit, or ever touch it with the intention of eating it, they would die. I think from all that we have told you, you can now see how very true God's words were; for their souls did die, and were dead in sin, and their bodies had the seeds of death in them; for sin made them have pain and sickness, and caused their bodies to die. Their bodies as well as their souls had death in them, and after awhile would die and turn into dust again.

At first God made them good and holy. They were good in their souls and good in

*NOTE.—The following ten lessons have been left without hymns and verses, which may be supplied by the teacher at pleasure.

their bodies. They were good in their hearts; we mean by this, they were good in every thing they loved, and did not love any thing but what it was right they should love; and they were good in their thoughts, also, and did not think about any thing but what was right for them to think about; so you see they were good both soul and body, and did not think, speak, or do any thing wrong. But besides this, they were holy. Now, we mean by their being holy, that they had God's Holy Spirit in their hearts, and this was religion, and made them very happy. They were good and religious.

Their souls were like a sheet of beautiful white paper, pure and clean. There were no spots of sin of any kind to be seen on them, they were so good and happy, they looked like God, and were his children.

But, children, just as a person would take a sheet of clean white paper and blot it all over with ink, and make it unclean, black, and ugly, and so ruin the paper, the devil came in his wickedness in the shape of an animal, and got Eve to listen to him; and then when he got into Eve's heart he deceived Adam, and got him to listen to him;

and so Adam and Eve let their souls be all blotted over and defiled with sin, and were made unclean, and became wicked like Satan himself.

You see now, children, how the devil deceived them, and afterward they could not get away from him, nor wash out the stains of sin from their souls, any more than the sheet of white paper blotted with ink could make itself clean and white again. They left God, and were altogether lost, and could not by themselves get back to God, for they now had wicked hearts and could not wash sin out of them, nor make them good again.

LESSON XXXI.

ADAM AND EVE, OR THE REVIEW.

PART SECOND.

DEAR children, you see that our first parents were lost from God, and had wicked hearts. A wicked heart is one that has no love for God in it; and loves things which it is wicked to love. A person who has a wicked heart is proud, and gets angry, and

does not even like to think about God. A person who has a wicked heart likes to please himself, but does not like to please God. Wicked persons do not care for God, and think and act just as they please, and are always breaking God's commandments.

You see, then, how Satan had Adam and Eve in his power, and that they could not get away from him. But then, children, you can see, too, that it was their own fault, for they listened to Satan, and when they listened to Satan they believed him, and so disobeyed God.

Now, there was but one way that God could wash their souls from sin, and make their hearts good again, and give them his Holy Spirit in their hearts, and make them happy, and so get them to leave Satan and come back to God; and that way was to give them a Savior, who would come into the world and die for them. This Savior was the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God. And if they would be sorry for what they had done, and would trust in this Savior to save them, then God could forgive them. But if God had not pleased to give them a Savior—for they did not deserve one—then they

were forever lost; they could never do any thing to make their own hearts good, and get away from Satan; they would be forever like Satan, a wicked spirit. But O how God pitied them!

“The Father said the Son should die;
The Son replied, ‘I will!’”

The Bible tells us, “God so loved the world that he gave his Son to die, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

LESSON XXXII.

THE SERPENT—ADAM AND EVE, OR THE REVIEW.

PART THIRD.

DEAR children, the Bible tells us that the animal in which Satan hid himself when he deceived our first parents, was one which was more subtile than any of the beasts of the field which the Lord God had made; that is, it was cunning and artful.

It seems that this animal could talk, for it talked with Eve. And it seems, too, that it was one that did not walk like any of the

other beasts, on four feet, nor crawled like any of the insects ; for when God punished it, he said, " Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go; dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life."

We have said, children, that when our first parents ate the forbidden fruit, and so were lost from God, and fell into the hands of Satan, that it was their own fault. It is true they might not have known that it was Satan that was making the animal say what it did, to get them to disobey God; for he had hid himself in the animal, and they could not see him.

But, then, as the animal at first was good—for you know that every thing that God made was good—even though they did not know any thing of Satan, they could very easily see that it was not good *now*, for it was contradicting what God had said, and was trying to make him out a liar.

LESSON XXXIII.

THE SERPENT—ADAM AND EVE, OR THE REVIEW.

PART FOURTH.

MY dear children, I think you can see for yourselves, how very wrong and wicked it was for Adam and Eve to listen to what the animal said, even if they did not know anything about Satan. As soon as it began to say what it did about their Father God, who had created them, and made them so happy, and had given them such a beautiful home, and also had given them power over all the beasts and creeping things of the earth, and over all the birds and fishes, and over all the things of the earth, they ought to have put a stop to its talk, and sent it away from them at once; and by doing so they might have sent Satan away also. They ought not to have believed what an animal would say, though it had been good once, when God had warned them not even to touch the tree, lest they should die.

Yes, children, Adam and Eve ought to have put a stop to the talk of the animal the very moment he tried to get them to

break the commandment of God. You know God had given them great power over all the living creatures that he had made; but if they found that their power was not great enough to stop the animal from tempting them to disobey God, then they should have told the Lord about it: and, as the Lord can see every thing, and knows every thing, and has such great power, that he can do just what he pleases, the Lord would have told them who it was that was making the animal talk as it did; and he would have helped them to resist Satan, and to conquer both Satan and the animal.

I think, children, you can see for yourselves, how it was, when Adam and Eve listened to Satan, they were altogether to blame for doing so. They had no one to blame but themselves.

Dear little ones, whenever Satan tempts you to think or say, or do any thing that is wrong or wicked, go immediately to God your Father and your Friend, who loves you very much, and tell him all about it, and he will help you out of your trouble.

LESSON XXXIV.

ADAM AND EVE AND THEIR GREAT FAMILY, OR THE REVIEW.**PART FIFTH.**

DEAR children, all the people of the world, that is, all the people of the world who ever have lived, and all the people who are living now, and the people who ever will live, make one great family of brothers and sisters ; and the father and mother of this great family were Adam and Eve.

God gave Adam and Eve, and their great family, this world for their home. And, as we have told you, God made the world, and every thing in it, very beautiful and good. And God himself paid a visit to this world every day, and walked and talked with his children. So there was every thing in this world for the happiness, the pleasure, and the comfort of our first parents, and all their children, that they could ask for, or ever wish to have.

If our first parents had always obeyed God, and had never sinned, then they would

always have been as the angels are in heaven, who have always obeyed God, good and happy; and these children would have been like themselves, good and happy.

Now, just as children look like their parents, their father and mother, if Adam and Eve had always been good and holy, like *their* Father, God, then all the children of their great family would have looked like them—good, and holy, and happy. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and brought themselves into sin and misery, and were like Satan—wicked—then all the children of their great family were like themselves—had sinful hearts, and were very unhappy, and very miserable.

I think you can now see how it was that by the disobedience of the first man, Adam, our first parents, and every one of the children of their great family, were lost from God, and came to be in the hands of Satan.

The Word of God tells us there are none good; no, not one, and it tells us, too, that all the people of the world have sinned against God, and deserve to be lost forever.

Like Satan, we have thought things about God that were not true, just such things as

Satan thought when he talked to Eve. Besides, we have said and done things which we knew were very wrong and sinful, and so, like Adam and Eve, have done that which God in his Word has told us we must not do. And by doing what God has told us we must not do, we have all sinned against God; we have disobeyed him, and have broken his commandments, and deserve to be lost forever.

LESSON XXXV.

ADAM AND EVE AND THE SINLESS PERFECTION OF THE SAVIOR, OR THE REVIEW.

PART SIXTH.

DEAR children, we have told you from the Word of God, the Bible, how it was that our first parents, and all their children, were lost from God, in sin and misery, and came to be in the hands of Satan, and lost their home, and can not have the Tree of Life to keep their bodies from dying; that because of sin all have to die, and leave this world, their beautiful home, and all the things which God, their Heavenly Father, has given them.

We told you, also, that although Adam and Eve brought themselves and their great family into sin and misery, and that both they and their children deserve to die, for that all have disobeyed God, and have broken his commandments, yet such was the pity and the love of God for poor, helpless sinners, that he gave the world a Savior. Yes, the Father gave his only Son, and the Son gave himself to die; for nothing in earth or heaven but the blood of the Lord Jesus could bring forgiveness to the poor sinner's heart, and wash away the stain of sin that is upon the soul, and save the world from the power of Satan, and bring it back to God.

The Lord Jesus was man as well as God. He lived in this wicked world, and the devil tempted him very much; but he did not listen to Satan. One time Satan took him up into a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of this world, and told him if he would fall down and worship him he would give them all to him; that is, he would make Jesus the king over all the kings of the world, if he would only fall down and worship Satan. But Jesus said to him, "Get thee hence, Satan, for it is written,

Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." Then Satan went away. You see, Satan was trying again to be greater than God: he wanted the Savior of the world, the Son of God, to worship him; but Jesus did not listen to him, or give way to him in the least, but sent him away.



LESSON XXXVI.

THE LORD JESUS, THE SAVIOR OF THE FALLEN FAMILY, OR THE REVIEW.

PART SEVENTH.

CHILDREN, Jesus was the only man who ever lived in the world without sinning against God. Jesus never sinned. Satan tried to tempt him, but he never listened to him; he always obeyed God, and was always good, and holy, and happy. He had no sins of his own to die for, but he died to take away the sin of the world. He died for poor sinners, who could not save themselves, nor get away from Satan. When Jesus died, it was the same as if he had said, "I have no sins of my own to wash away, for I have never

sinned; so if I die for poor sinners, God can forgive them for my sake, because I have always been good, and have always obeyed God, and never sinned. If I die sinners can leave Satan, and come back to God, and God can give them back the happiness, and the pleasures, and the comforts which they lost, and give them a home with their God and their Savior, where Satan can never tempt them any more, and where they will never have to die again.

"Because I am God as well as man; if I die I can save the soul that is dead in trespasses and sin; that is, it can be washed from sin, and be made good again, so that the Holy Spirit can live in it again; and I can save the body from death, for I can raise it up again, and make it like the soul, so that it will never die any more; and I can conquer Satan, and shut him up in hell, so he can never get out again. I can make man anew again; I can give him a new heart and a new body, and make him like myself, holy and happy, and give him a home where Satan can not get him away from God again, and so bring the world back to God."

As God, children, the Savior of the world

could not die, but as man he could die. Jesus died instead of poor sinners. And now, because he was man, and never sinned any, and because he was God, and had all power in heaven and earth, God can have mercy upon the world, and save it from the power of Satan.

LESSON XXXVII.

ADAM AND EVE AND THE SAVIOR, OR THE REVIEW.

PART EIGHTH.

DEAR children,

"A sweeter paradise is won
Than you in Eden lost;
There God shines brighter than the sun,
Amid the heavenly host.

A few more years of suffering past,
Your souls shall reach that shore;
Your body at the trumpet's blast
Shall live to die no more."

I think, my dear little ones, you can now see how very merciful God has been to our first parents, and to their great family; for if the Lord had never come into the world, to be a man, and die, poor sinners could never have been forgiven, and the world could

never have been saved from the power of Satan. All the people of the world, with their father and mother, Adam and Eve, were lost from God, and had become the children of the wicked one—Satan—but Jesus came into the world to seek and to save this lost family and their parents. All have sinned; that is, all have disobeyed God, and have broken his holy law; but Jesus died that all might find forgiveness of God, and have the Holy Spirit to help them to leave their wicked father, Satan, and find their way back to their own Father, God, the one who created them.

Jesus died upon the cross, and his body was laid in the grave; but on the third day he rose from the dead, and came out of his grave, and was alive again. All of this great family have to die; but because Jesus is alive again, he says all this great family shall live again; that is, he will make their bodies alive again. He will raise them up from their graves.

This great family lost their beautiful home that God had given them; but Jesus has gone to heaven to get another home for them, where they can see him and dwell with him.

LESSON XXXVIII.

**ADAM AND EVE AND THE SAVIOR—FAITH IN CHRIST—
OR THE REVIEW.**

PART NINTH.

It is true, children, that God has given the world a Savior, who has shed his blood to save it from sin, and to give it the Holy Spirit to show poor sinners the way back to God, and give them another home where there will be no sickness, nor sorrow, nor death; and where Satan can never tempt them to sin against God any more; and where Jesus himself is as the Tree of Life, to keep both the soul and the body from dying, or, as we have told you before, the Savior has promised at last to make our bodies alive again. But then we must come to the Lord Jesus and believe that he is the Savior of the world. We must believe that he is our Savior, and trust in him to save us.

You know that when Satan told our first parents if they ate of the forbidden tree they should not die, as God had said, they be-

lied Satan, and disobeyed God, which you know was very wicked for them to do.

Now, the first thing they had to do in order to get away from Satan, and get back the love of God in their hearts, was to believe God again; to believe every word he said. He promised them a Savior who would die to save them and conquer Satan; and they believed the promise and were forgiven.

God has promised to forgive us our sins, and give us new hearts full of the Holy Spirit, hearts that can love God, and so make us like God again, holy and happy. And when we die he has promised to take our souls to heaven, and at the last day to make our bodies alive again—make them like the Savior's body, so that they will never die, and the soul can live in them forever. But then as long as we believe Satan, and do not believe what the Lord Jesus has said, we can not get away from Satan, we will always have wicked hearts and be like him.

Jesus has said, that if any one believes in him he shall have everlasting life, and he will raise him up at the last day. God has said to every one of us, in his *Word*, "Be-

lieve on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

LESSON XXXIX.

ADAM AND EVE, AND FAMILY—THE SAVIOR—OR THE REVIEW.

PART TENTH.

OUR first parents and their great family disobeyed God, and with Satan became sinners, and were lost from God; but God's pity and love for this fallen and lost family caused him to give his Son to die, that they might be forgiven, and to show them he wanted to be friends with them again. And the pity and love of Jesus, the Son of God, caused him to give himself to die for this family, that they might be saved, and to get them to come to God and be forgiven, and so be friends with God again. God, our Savior, loves this great family, and wants to give them back their happiness, and does not like to see them lost.

My dear little ones, you see God has done every thing he could for our first parents and their family, to save them; and now if

they do not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, that is, if they do not come to Jesus to be saved, then they will be lost forever. But then if we will listen to Satan and disobey God, if we will not believe God and do those things which he has commanded us not to do, it will be all our own fault.

When Jesus comes again at the last day and makes us alive again, if we do not look like Jesus, good and holy, then we can not be taken to the new home, and God will have to send us away with Satan where we can never be saved nor see our God any more. If we always believe God, we shall always obey and love him, and shall be saved. But if we always disobey God, and do not believe what he tells us, nor love him, then we shall be lost. If we want to be saved and be friends with God again, we must come to Jesus and ask God to forgive us.

LESSON XL.*

THE REVIEW.

PART ELEVENTH.

"Sun, moon, and stars, by day and night,
At God's commandment give us light;
And when we wake, and while we sleep,
Watch over us like angels keep."

The bright blue sky above our head,
The soft green earth on which we tread,
The ocean rolling round the land,
Were made by God's Almighty hand.

Sweet flowers, that hill and dale adorn,
Fair fruit trees, fields of grass and corn,
The clouds that move, the showers that fall,
The winds that blow—God sends them all.

The beasts that graze with downward eye,
The birds that sing, and perch, and fly,
The fishes swimming in the sea,
God's creatures are as well as we.

But us he formed for better things,
As servants for the King of kings,
With lifted hands and open face,
With thankful hearts to seek his grace.

Thus God loved man, and more than thus,
He sent his Son to live with us;
And now invites us, when we die,
To come and live with him on high.

* This lesson may be repeated by the class in concert.

But we must live to him below;
For none but such to heaven can go.
Lord Jesus, hear our humble prayer,
And lead the little children there.

LESSON XLI.

ABOUT THE HIDING OF GOD'S FACE—OR GOD HIDES HIMSELF AND TEACHES MAN THE WAY OF FAITH.

MY dear little ones, how was it that God spoke words of kindness, and showed such mercy to our first parents, when they had broken his law and deserved to die forever? If you remember, it was because he had given them a Savior, who was to come into the world after awhile and die for them. Yes, the Savior's wonderful love for poor lost sinners brought him to earth.

"Down from his Father's throne,
Glorious and bright,
He came, and bled, and died—
O, wondrous sight!"

It is true, God was kind and merciful. He let people pray to him, and sometimes spoke to them, and in many ways made his presence to appear so as to be seen; but then he did not walk and talk with them, nor let them see him just as he did in the

garden before they sinned; he did not *now* permit people to behold with their *eyes* the great God of heaven and truth just as he is.

But do we not read, children, in the Bible, that God did sometimes appear to people? There was something that would appear in which God was hid, that could be seen with the eyes, but God himself could not be seen. But what are some of the ways in which God appeared so as not to be seen, that is, to show people that he was present, and yet not let them see God himself? Sometimes God hid himself in a bright cloud; again, he has wrapt himself in a flame of fire; and at other times he has appeared in the form of a man, called "the angel;" but as one of the last ways in which God hid himself, he put on a clothing of flesh and blood, and hid himself in the person of Jesus Christ. You know Jesus was God as well as man. Now they could see the cloud, the fire, the angel, and the man Jesus Christ, and *knew* that God was present, but they could not see God himself just as he is.

There was one man who saw more of God than any other that we read of in the Bible,

and the name of that man was Moses; but he did not see God's face, he only saw his back as he passed by. Moses wished to see God's face, but God told him he could not see his face and live.

It is true that we can not see God just as Adam and Eve did in the garden, but then we must not forget, children, that God sees us all the time.

"When I sleep, and when I wake,
When my daily walks I take,
Though my eyes no God can see,
Still he ever looks at me."

Sinners have broken God's law and deserve to die forever, and can not be saved without a Savior. But what does God wish people to know by his hiding himself from them? He wishes them to know that he is willing to save them, but can not let them see his face till they have learned to believe and come to him in the Savior.

LESSON XLII.

ABOUT FAITH, OR WHAT FAITH DOES.

CHILDREN, the Savior was to die to make God and man one again, that is, to make them such friends again, that man might be with God, when, like the angels, he might always behold the face of his Heavenly Father. Now, to make man good, and holy, and happy like his God again, fit to live with him, and be permitted to walk and talk with him, what did God have to teach him? God had to teach him to live by faith. Faith, children, means believing.

What is faith? said a father to his little daughter as she sat playing with a string of beads. She could not tell. He then took the beads from her and threw them into the fire. She looked very sad and was about to cry, but the father told her he would, by and by, fetch her a string of beads much prettier than those. Then she was pleased and did not cry.

Why was this little girl going to cry?
Because she had lost her beads.

Why was she afterward pleased? Because she believed her father would do as he promised her he would.

What is this believing called? It is called faith.

When we believe God will do as he has promised in his Word, what is it? It is faith in God.

While our first parents had faith in God, that is, while they knew how to believe and *did* believe God in every thing he said to them, they were permitted to see him with their eyes; but while sinners are learning to have faith in God, do they see him just as they did? They do not see him just as they did, but their faith sees the promise of God, and it sees God the Savior. Then, when people live by faith, what do they do? They believe God in his promise; and come to him in the Savior, without seeing him with their eyes. When our first parents believed Satan they left off believing God; they had faith in Satan, and lost their faith in God. So you see, children, sinners had to learn to begin to serve God again just when they left off; that is, they had to begin to believe God again, for, as we are told in the Word of

God, without faith it is impossible to please God.

While we listen to Satan we do not believe God, we are not friends with God, and do not love to please him; and God can not be friends with us, and be pleased with us till we leave Satan and come back to him.

What does faith do for the soul? Faith brings God into the soul. And now, children, I will try to tell you how faith brings God into the soul. When sinners leave Satan, and believe in God, and come back to him in the Savior, God is so much pleased to see them coming back to him, that he comes to them in the Savior, and washes away all their sins, and gives them the Holy Spirit to make them happy, and to let them know their sins are all forgiven, that he loves them, and is with them in their souls. And then, children, when sinners begin to have faith in God, how long do you think it will be before they can see God? When they get the letter of faith perfect, they will be taken home to heaven, and when their bodies are made alive again, they shall see God with their eyes.

LESSON XLIII.

SACRIFICES GOD'S WAY OF POINTING OUT THE TRUE
SACRIFICE, OR THE REAL SACRIFICE,
THE LAMB OF GOD.

WHEN God began to teach our first parents and their great family to live by faith, that not one could see his face till they had learned to believe him and come to him, in the Savior, he wished people to remember his promise, and think of the Savior.

Now, my dear little ones, if the promise that God gave to the world about the Savior had been forgotten, so as never to have been thought of again, what do you think would have been done? People would have left off believing God in what he said in his promise, and so would think about the Savior. God knew that his promise might be forgotten, so what do you think he did, children? He taught the people a way to keep the promise in mind, and not to forget that they were sinners, and that nothing but the blood of the Savior could save them from sin and Satan's power, and bring them to behold the face of their Heavenly Father; and I suppose

you would like to know what he told them to do, would you not? He told them to pile up some earth, or large stones; this heap was called an altar; and then to lay some wood on the altar; then take a knife and kill a lamb, and burn it on the altar, the animal being first bound with a rope; doing this was called offering a sacrifice: but what was the sacrifice that was offered? The sacrifice itself was the lamb which was laid bound upon the altar, and gave up its life and died.

When Jesus was bound, or fastened by his hands and feet with nails to the cross, he was like a lamb bound upon the altar; but whose lamb was he? He was God's Lamb; God gave his Son for the sin of the world. Then, when Jesus offered himself unto God, and gave up his life, and died upon the cross, what was he? He was a sacrifice to take away sin. Jesus was the Lamb of God that taketh away sin.

Jesus was the real sacrifice: the other sacrifices, that is, the sacrifices of animals, only represented his death. The sacrifices which showed the Savior's death were offered very often; but how often do you think, children, the Savior was to be offered for sin? He was

to be offered just *once* for the whole world, a sacrifice for sin.

I hope, dear children, that you will never forget that the Savior died to save, and to bring you to your new home in glory; that is, in heaven.

“On Calvary he died,
A sacrifice for sin;
There Christ was crucified,
That we might glory win.”

How did the sacrifices of animals help people to believe in God, and think of the Savior? They kept God’s promise in and showed the death of the Savior.

“My faith looks up to thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine:
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O, let me from this day
Be wholly thine!”

The sacrifices of animals were to be offered till the Savior came and died; but when Jesus died, what then was to be done with them? As soon as the real sacrifice, the Lamb of God, was offered, then the sacrifices of animals were to cease; that is, they were not to be offered any more. But why were they to cease when the Lamb of God was

offered? To show that the real sacrifice, the one that God had promised, was now offered, and that there would now be no other sacrifice than the one Jesus had offered.

"Not all the blood of beasts,
On Jewish altars slain,
Could give the guilty conscience peace,
Or wash away our stain.

But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name,
And richer blood than they.

Believing, we rejoice,
To feel the curse removed;
We bless the Lamb, with cheerful voice,
And trust his bleeding love."

LESSON XLIV.

SINCE THE CRUCIFIXION, GOD'S WAY OF KEEPING
THE WORLD IN MIND OF THE DEATH
OF THE SAVIOR.

SINCE Jesus died, God wishes people to believe him, because he has fulfilled his promises. Jesus was the Son of God, the Savior God had promised to the world. When Jesus died God's promise was fulfilled. God wishes people now to remember that his

promise is fulfilled, and to think of the Savior, because he died for them.

God has a way, now since the death of the Savior, as well as before it, children, to keep people in mind of the Savior that was promised, and died to save sinners, and that way is by hearing and reading the story of the Savior.

There are two ways, then, of learning the story of the Savior; one is by hearing, and the other by reading it.

Now, if there was no other way of being kept in mind of the Savior's death but by reading, there would be a great many people in the world who would not take the trouble to read the story, and there would be a great many more who would never know that there was such a story to be read. Besides, there are a great many people in the world who do not know how to read; and a great many of those who *do* know how to read would forget to read it.

Now, that the whole world might hear the story of the Savior, and be kept in mind of his death, what do you think the Savior did a little before he left the world and went to heaven? He left a command to his ministers,

and said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel;" that is, tell all people of the great things I have told you, and of all the great things I have done; tell them how I came into this world, and suffered and died for sinners; tell them I am alive again from the dead, and go away to my Father to prepare a place for them, and will come again at the last day, to reward the good and punish the wicked.

"Jesus, thy love shall we forget,
And never bring to mind
The grace that paid our sinful debt,
And bade us pardon find?

CHORUS.

Our sorrows and our sins were laid
On thee, alone on thee;
Thy precious blood the full price paid,
Thine all the glory be.

The nails, the spear, can we forget,
The agonizing cry:
'My God, my Father, wilt thou let
Thy Son forsaken die!'

CHORUS—Our sorrows," etc.

Again, children, if hearing the story of the Savior preached was the only way of keeping his death in mind, the story might be forgotten altogether, and ministers could not remember it so as to tell it right.

If the story of the Savior could not be read, people would not know that it was of God, and that ministers were commanded to preach it, and so they would not be believed. Besides, if people could not read the story of the Savior for themselves, they would only be put in mind of it while they were hearing it.

And now that the story of the Savior might never be forgotten, and that people might know for themselves the truth of the story, and be always kept in mind of the Savior's death, what do you think God did? He caused the story to be written, which is to be found in that part of the Bible called the New Testament.

"We won't give up the Bible,
For it alone can tell
The way to save our ruined souls
From being sent to hell.
And it alone can tell us how
We may have hopes of heaven,
That through the Savior's blood
Our sins may be forgiven.
We won't give up the Bible,
God's holy book of truth."

How does hearing and reading the story of the Savior help people to believe God and think of the Savior? When they hear the

story they remember that God has fulfilled his promise, and they know that Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior of the world, and that in no other Savior can they come to God and be saved but in Jesus, who died for them.

God has said to people in his Word, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Now, when people hear or read that story of the Savior, and are put in mind of his death, what does God wish them to do? He wishes them to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the only Savior of the world, and that he died to save them; and why? That he may save them as he has promised.

I think, dear children, you can now see for yourselves, that when people believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was crucified on Mount Calvary, and died upon the cross, they believe God and come to him in the Savior to be saved.

LESSON XLV.

ABOUT GOD IN HIS HOUSE, OR WHAT PEOPLE DO IN
GOD'S HOUSE.

"God is in his holy temple, let all the earth
keep silence before him."

By the temple, children, is meant the house of God; but why is it said to be holy? The house of God is holy because it is a place where God is particularly present. God is a holy God, and *his* house is a holy place. God has been pleased to promise that he will ever be present in his house whenever people come to worship.

When people come into the house of God, what do they do? They keep silence before God. Why? Because God is in his house. Then, when people come into the house of God, they come into the presence of God.

But what about the silence that is kept in the house of God? The silence that people keep before God in his house is a kind of silence that shows honor and reverence to God. What way? By waiting upon God, to hear and do his will; that is, they wait upon God to hear what he has to say to them in

his Word, and to tell him the feelings and desires of their hearts, when they sing and pray.

But when people wait upon God to hear and do his will, how do you think, children, God and the people talk together that they may understand each other? God talks with the people in his Word, when the minister reads and preaches it, and helps them, by his Spirit, to understand what he wishes them to know and do, and the Holy Spirit helps the people to tell God the feelings and desires of their hearts, when they sing and pray; that is, they thank God for all his goodness to them, and confess their sins, and ask him to forgive them, and at last to take them to heaven.

I think, my little ones, you can now see how God and the people understand each other when they talk together. God gives the Holy Spirit to the people to help them to understand just what he wishes them to know and do. And the Holy Spirit helps the people to talk with God. And as God knows the mind of the Spirit—that is, is acquainted with him—and sees the hearts of the people, and hears what they say when

they sing and pray, he understands and knows just what they want him to do for them.

But if there were but two or three people present at the time in which people meet to wait upon God in his house, do you think God would be as particular to be present as he would if the house was filled with people? Yes, though there be but two or three to wait upon God in his house, God will be present, as he has said he would be, for the Savior has said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." The Savior will be present that the people may talk with their Father, God, for the Savior is God as well as man, and, as we have told you from the Bible, there is no other way of coming to God but in him; and the Holy Spirit will be present, also, to help God and the people to talk.

You see what care the Lord takes for those who wish to be saved. Let glory, that is praise, be given to the Lord, for if he did not care for poor sinners, they could not come into his presence, nor be saved from their sins, and brought home to heaven.

Yes, my little ones, can you not sing from your hearts,

“To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Who sweetly all agree,
To save a world of sinners lost,
Eternal glory be?”

LESSON XLVI.

ABOUT THE WORSHIP OF GOD.

“In God’s own house, then, shall I play,
Where Christians meet to hear and pray?
It will profane that holy place,
And tempt the Almighty to his face.

When angels bow before the Lord,
And devils tremble at his word,
Shall I, a sinful mortal, dare
To mock, and sport, and trifle there?

His wrath may strike my guilty head,
His fire from heaven may lay me dead,
And send my careless soul to dwell
Low in the gloomy flames of hell.”

BEFORE the Savior’s death, when the people of God came together and offered a sacrifice, and prayed to God, and heard his Word, what did they do? They worshiped God. But since the Savior’s death, when the people of God—now named after Christ, called “Christians”—meet together in the house of

the Lord, to hear the Word of the Lord both read and preached, and to pray and to sing God's praises, what do they do? They worship God.

"Lord, how delightful 'tis to see,
When all the people worship thee!
At once they sing, at once they pray,
They hear of heaven and learn the way."

Children, when people worship God, what do they do? They honor and reverence God by waiting upon him to hear and do his will.

In some countries the people have a particular way of coming into the presence of their rulers, kings, and other great men; that is, they always come into their presence in that one particular way, and that way is this: when any of the people come into the presence of a king they fall prostrate before him, that is, they bow the body, with the face toward the earth, so low that it lies down at full length, and the face touches the ground; and in some places, besides falling down prostrate, they always bring in their hand a present of gold for the king. This falling prostrate and present of gold is an act of honor and reverence which people pay to no

one but a king, or some great person like him.

I think this will help you to understand what we mean when we talk of the worship of God—worship is an act of honor and reverence which the people of God pay to no one but the great God and King of heaven and earth when they come into his presence.

Now, that part of the worship of God which is performed by the body, that is, what the body does in the worship of God, can be seen, which is the outward act of worship. With a knife the hand killed the animal offered in sacrifice to God; the body bows down before God in prayer; with the hearing of the ear the Word of the Lord is heard; and with the tongue we talk with God in prayer and praises. But, as you know, children, we can not see the soul which is in the body, so there is a part of the worship of God that can not be seen, the *inward part* of worship, which is performed by the soul, and is spiritual, because it is the worship of the soul.

That part of worship which can be seen, may be performed without the inward worship; that is, people might offer a sacrifice,

and may bow the knee, sing, and say prayers, and yet not love God, nor even think of what they are saying or doing. But then—

“ ‘Tis not enough to bend the knee,
And words of prayer to say,
The heart must with the lips agree,
If we would truly pray.”

When people come into the presence of God to worship him, God wishes them always to bring with them, for him, a gift; not that kind of a present which people bring when they come into the presence of an earthly king—gold, but one that is given to God, and which should be given to him only. That gift God asks you for, children, when he says, “Son, daughter, give me thy heart.”

Now, that God may have the outward worship of the body and the inward worship of the soul, what ought people to do? God wishes people, when they come into his presence, always to give him their hearts, that is, to worship him from the heart, to declare by the outward worship that he is their God, at the same time giving themselves to God to love and serve him with their whole heart, soul, mind, and strength; but when people worship God from the

heart, what happens to them? They receive the Holy Spirit into their hearts, and are accepted, that is, God is pleased with their worship, and gives them his Spirit to make them happy.

Now, my little ones, were you to ask me what the outward act of true worship—the worship from the heart—declares, I would tell you, that in the outward act of worship we declare or acknowledge God and his Son Jesus Christ to be the only true God and Savior of the world, and that we are trusting with all the heart in God, through Christ, to be forgiven and saved, soul and body, both now and forever.



LESSON XLVII.

THE HISTORY OF CAIN AND ABEL.

PART FIRST.

“Guard me, O Lord, from Satan’s power,
For he walks to and fro,
And like a lion would devour
The souls of men below.

Pride, hate, and envy are the chains
By which he holds them fast;
Nor lets them know what bitter pains
Their sins shall bring at last.”

ADAM and Eve had now two sons who were grown up to be men. The name of the elder son was Cain, and the name of the younger one was Abel.

"Cain was the babe that first on earth
Rejoiced a mother's sight."

Cain was a tiller of the ground, that is, a farmer; and Abel was a keeper of sheep, that is, a shepherd.

Their parents taught them to worship God. Cain brought an offering unto the Lord of the fruit of the ground; Abel also brought an offering of the firstlings of his flock, that is, the youngest of his lambs.

Abel showed by the offering which he brought, that he believed in God the great Creator; also, that the Savior whom God had promised would come into the world to die to save him from sin and death. And God was well pleased with his offering and accepted his worship.

But Cain would not humble himself so much as to confess in his heart to God that he could not be saved without a Savior, and was unwilling to bring that kind of offering which taught him he had sinned against the great God, and deserved death, and that

nothing but the blood of that Savior who was his could wash his soul from sin, and bring forgiveness to his heart. He thought it enough to bring an offering that would just show he believed God to be the great Creator; also, that God had a kind providence over all his creatures, that is, a care over them, thanking him for the good things of this life which he enjoyed. He took his own way, but God was not pleased with him and did not accept his worship.

It was well to believe there was a God who was the great Creator, and that he had a providence. But it was not all that God had required him to do. God wished him to confess his sins and believe in the promised Savior; and he was to show this by bringing an offering that would bring to mind the suffering and death of that Savior who was to be slain for the sin of the world, and no offering which he might bring could be accepted till he had obeyed the command of the Lord.

There is but one way in which poor, dying sinners can come to God and be accepted, and that way is *by faith in the Son of God*, the Savior of the world.

By faith Abel offered a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.

Dear children, by faith

"Let us behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our guilt;
Behold the Savior's precious blood
That on the cross was spilt!"

CHORUS.

I will believe! I do believe!
That Jesus died for me!
The streams of our salvation
Are copious and free."

You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing.)
"Guard me, O Lord, from Satan's power," etc.



LESSON XLVIII.

THE HISTORY OF CAIN AND ABEL.

PART SECOND.

"Haste! O sinner, to the Savior,
Seek his mercy while you may;
Soon the day of grace is over,
Soon your life will pass away;
Haste! O sinner!
You must perish if you stay."

WHEN Cain found that his offering was not accepted he was very angry, and looked

sad and unhappy. God spoke to him and said, Why are you angry, and why so sad and unhappy? You know if you do well you will be accepted; but if you do not do well—do not quickly repent and believe, the sin of which you are now guilty will bring you in a very short time to ruin. Abel will not hurt you, he is your younger brother, and will do as you wish to do.

Cain had now a moment given him, in which he might do well toward God and be accepted, and so have right feelings toward his brother.

But instead of doing better, though God had kindly reminded him of his duty, and warned him of sin, he continued to do evil.

“Cain once, perhaps, might start
At what he soon would be;
But they who trust an evil heart,
May prove as vile as he.”

Still Cain dared to be disobedient to his Maker, intending, perhaps, to do better after awhile—was angry, went out and talked with his brother. And afterward, when they were in the field together, Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

“Thus Satan tempts one mother’s son
To rage against another;

So wicked Cain was hurried on,
Till he had killed his brother."

Cain first indulged in feeling of pride and self-will, and refused God's way of mercy and salvation, and took his own way of being saved, which caused him to give way to anger and envy; and anger and envy led to the hatred and murder of his brother.

"Our evil actions spring
From small and hidden seeds;
At first we think some wicked thing,
Then practice wicked deeds."

God spoke to Cain and said, "Where is thy brother Abel? He answered, I know not; am I my brother's keeper?" Cain did not wish the murder to be known, and was afraid to tell what he had done, and told an untruth. But

"God saw the sudden blow he gave,
He noticed every angry word;"

and as he knew all about it, he at once laid the murder to him and said, "What is this that thou hast done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground."

God, all along, had borne with Cain's wickedness, but now he had to punish him,

He told him the earth which had opened her mouth to receive his brother's blood, from his hand, should not give him such a plentiful supply of corn, etc., nor as *certainly* as it had done heretofore; and sent him away from his home and friends, and from the worship of God, and made him a wanderer over the earth.

When Cain saw that the murder was known, and heard his sentence, he was very miserable in his feelings, and was afraid of being killed, and said unto the Lord, "Behold, every one that seeth me will kill me;" but the Lord was pleased to tell him he would give an *order* that he should not be killed.

So Cain dwelt in a country called "Nod."

"O Thou, who wast so meek and mild,
Thou gentle Savior, hear my cry,
And help a weak and sinful child
Each rising passion to deny."

You may now sing the verse in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Haste! O sinner! to the Savior," etc.

LESSON XLIX.

ABOUT THE GENERATIONS FROM ADAM TO NOAH,
AND THE FLOOD.

PART FIRST.

"When the dark and heavy cloud
Lifts on high its awful form,
And above us pealing loud
Rolls the thunder of the storm;
Do not fear the lightning's flash,
God directs it where to fall;
Do not fear the thunder's crash,
For your Savior sends them all."

DEAR children, what is a generation? I will tell you. A generation is the time one man lives till his son comes to take his place.

You already know, from the last lesson, how Adam was deprived of both of his sons; one was murdered, and the other banished, never more to live at home. But when Adam was one hundred and thirty years of age, the Lord was pleased to give him another son; and what was this son's name? Adam called him Seth?

And the Bible tells us, that after this Adam had both sons and daughters, but does not give us their names.

Which of the brothers, think you, was Seth like, Cain or Abel? I will tell you. Like his dear good brother Abel, Seth was a good man, and loved and served the Lord.

Listen, children, and I will tell you about Seth. Seth had a son whose name was Enos, and he had a grandson whose name was Cainan—the son of Enos—and he had a great grandson—the son of Cainan—whose name was Mahalaleel; and he had a great great grandson—the son of Mahalaleel—whose name was Jared.

Now Jared was the father of Enoch.

The Bible tells us that Enoch was a very good man; that he loved and served the Lord. And the Lord loved Enoch, and took him to live with him in glory; that is, in heaven.

You see, Enoch did not die and lie in the grave, like other people, but was taken up to heaven without dying.

Enoch had a son who lived longer than any other person we read of in the Bible, and so is called the oldest man in the world. His name was Methusalah, and he lived nine hundred and sixty-nine years.

Methusalah, the son of Enoch, had a son

whose name was Lamech; and he had a grandson, the son of Lamech, whose name was Noah.

You see, when Adam died Seth took his father's place, and so Adam being the first generation, when he died and Seth took his place in the world, Seth was the second generation. And when Seth died, and his son, Enos, came to take his place, Enos was the third generation. And when Enos died, and his son, Cainan, came to take his place, Cainan was the fourth generation. And when Cainan died, and his son, Mahalaleel, took his place, Mahalaleel was the fifth generation. And when Mahalaleel died, and his son, Jared, took his place, Jared was the sixth generation. And when Jared died, and his son, Enoch, took his place, Enoch was the seventh generation. And when Enoch was taken to heaven, and his son, Methusalah, took his place, Methusalah was the eighth generation. And when Methusalah died, and his son, Lamech, came to take his place in the world, Lamech was the ninth generation. And when Lamech died, Noah came and took his father's place in the world.

Now, you can see for yourselves, children,

that having all died but Enoch, he being taken to heaven, from Adam down to Noah, nine generations of people had passed away from the earth: and when Noah would die he would be the tenth.

I think you now understand what is meant by a generation of people in the world. There is a rhyme about it, in two verses, which you may now repeat.

(The children repeat.)

"By generations God made man,
To live his life below,
And if he follows his commands,
He then to heaven will go.

When Adam died the first was gone;
Aged Seth came next in line;
Then Enos made another one;
To Noah there were nine."

Of these persons we are told that Noah was the eighth one who was not only good himself, but tried to persuade others to be good, and love and serve the Lord, and so was called a "preacher of righteousness." What a good report to be given to the world!

Children, when you come to die, would you not like to look back and see that you had not only been good yourselves, but had tried to do what you could to help others to

be good, and love and serve the Lord, and so have a good report given to the world of your generation; that is, of the time you lived in the world? What ought you to do? You ought to begin the service of the Lord now in your childhood, and never leave off, but serve him all your days.

There are some verses that will help you to remember about it. You may repeat and sing.

(The children sing.)

TEACHER.

"To thee, Almighty God,
Our childhood we resign,
'T will please us to look back and see
That our whole lives were thine.

Let the sweet work of prayer and praise.
Employ our youngest breath;
Thus we're prepared for longer days,
Or fit for early death."

PART SECOND.

We will begin the second part of our lesson, children, by singing the verse in the beginning of the first part of the lesson:

"When the dark and heavy cloud," etc.

(The children sing.)

Dear children, the Bible does not tell us about every one who lived from the time of

Adam down to Noah; but it tells us that the earth was filled with people, and that they grew so very wicked the Lord was displeased with them, and could take no pleasure in the people he had made; and, O children, listen to what he said: "The Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from off the face of the earth, both man and beast, and the creeping things, and the fowls of the air." And what way did the Lord take to destroy man, with the beasts, and the creeping things, and the fowls of the air, from off the earth? You shall hear about it, children.

Of all the people of the world there was one man, and but one only, who, with his family, loved and served the Lord; and that person was Noah, the grandson of Methusalah.

And, as you already know, Noah was not only a good man, and loved and served the Lord himself; but advised and tried to persuade others to do likewise. Now, because Noah was a good man, and did what he could to help others be the same, what did the Lord determine to do? He determined to save Noah; and so told him to build an ark, to

save himself and family from a flood that he was about to bring upon the earth, to destroy it.

He told him, also, that he was to take with him into the ark all sorts of animals, with food for them, as well as for himself and family.

But what was the ark? The ark, children, was a large vessel, made to float on the water.

And I suppose, children, you would like to know something about the ark, what it was made of, and about its form, and size, as well as whether it had any doors or windows, and how the water would be kept from getting into it.

The ark was made of wood; and as to its shape or form, it was not made with a sharp breast, like a ship or steamboat, to cut the waves; but its form was an oblong square. The bottom of the ark was square, and the top was closed in with a slanting roof, like a house. The ark was very long, and was three stories high; it was made large enough to accommodate Noah and his family, and the different sorts of animals that were to be taken into it. We can not tell you just how

the ark had its windows, nor how many it had; but any way, it had one window and one door; the window, it would seem, was on the top of the ark, and the door was in the side. And the ark was made water-tight, and was covered over with pitch, so that there was not a place in it where the water could come in.

What a wonderful vessel the ark must have been!

How would it look? It must have looked more like a house than any thing else, floating upon the water. How would Noah ever know how to make such a vessel? O, children, the Lord told Noah all about it, just how to make the ark.

But about the animals, children, that were to be taken into the ark, did Noah take one or more of a sort, or, how did he take them? You shall hear about it.

Of what were called clean animals, Noah was to take seven male and female of every sort; but of the unclean animals he was to take two, male and female, of every sort.

You see, the clean animals were the ox, the goat, the lamb, the turtle-dove, and the pigeon. These were the best of all the ani-

mals that God had made, and were not only the most useful to man, but were the most fit to show the Savior's death in the sacrifices.

So Noah did all that the Lord commanded him.

But would the people themselves know about the flood that was about to be brought upon the earth?

You see, children, all the while Noah was building the ark he would preach to the people, and warn them of their danger. He told them how God was about to bring a flood upon the earth, to destroy them, if they did not leave off their wickedness and turn to God.

Whenever the people would look at the ark that was being built, what would they be reminded of? and what would they see? They would remember what Noah had told them, and they would see that the ark would be a place of refuge to flee to, as well as a place of safety from the great storm and flood that their sin would bring upon the earth.

And how would the people feel? Were they sorry they had been so wicked, and

sinned against their Heavenly Father, so as to cause him to be displeased with them, and have to punish them with death, and not let them live any longer? What did they determine to do? O, strange to say, children, they loved their pleasures more than they did the Lord who created them! Instead of listening to Noah, as they should have done, they would not mind what he said, and only laughed at him.

Children, when ministers preach to you, and tell you about your sins, and about Jesus, I hope you will not be so foolish and wicked as the people were who heard Noah's preaching. And that you may not forget about it, there are some verses which you may now repeat in concert.

(The children repeat in concert.)

"Lovers of pleasure more than God,
For you he suffered pain;
For you the Savior spilt his blood;
And shall he bleed in vain?

Sinners, his life for you he paid;
Your basest crimes he bore;
Your sins were all on Jesus laid,
That you might sin no more.

To earth the great Redeemer came,
That you might come to heaven;
Believe, believe in Jesus' name,
And all your sin's forgiven."

So, what did the people do? We are told, children, that up to the very day in which Noah entered the ark, they married, ate, and drank, and made merry. There are some verses about it, that you may now repeat.

(The children repeat in concert.)

"O tell me how the nations passed
The day before the flood?

O, did they know it was the last?
And did they call on God?

In merriment
The time is spent;
They sing and play,
And dance away;
They eat and drink,
And little think

They stand on endless ruin's brink.

Some rear the walls
Of sumptuous halls;
Some join their hands
In marriage bands;
Some sell and buy;
All vainly try

To flee from God's all-seeing eye."

But how would Noah know when to have the ark finished, so as to move into it, as well as what time the flood would come?

You see, the Lord told Noah what time he wished him to be ready and move into the ark, and let him know the very day in which he would bring the flood.

So Noah had the ark finished at the set

time; and then he brought the corn, the fruit, and the grass for food, into the ark, as well as provisions—that is, food—for himself and family, and had it stored in its place.

And how do you think Noah would collect the animals? Could he ever get them all to go into the ark? You know some were gentle enough; but what would he do with the lion, tiger, and bear, and all the wild beasts?

You see, the Lord brought all sorts of such animals as could not live in the water to Noah, and Noah chose of the clean animals seven of a sort, and of the unclean two of a sort, male and female, and the Lord caused them to go gently and quietly to their places in the ark.

And then Noah himself, with his wife, and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, with their wives, all entered the ark.

Noah attended to the animals, and saw them all safe in the ark; but who would attend to Noah and his family, and fasten the door after them, so that nothing could open it and let the water in? The Lord closed the door, children, and shut them all in that the flood could not hurt them.

Would not Noah, however, feel very much

afraid of the great storm and flood that now was coming on the earth? He might fear lest the vessel would sink, or be struck with lightning, and so after all would be lost. O, the Lord had said he would save Noah, and that was enough.

Are you afraid some evil may befall you, so that you can never reach heaven in safety, and after all may be lost with the wicked in hell?

Children, if you but obey the Lord, you will have nothing to fear. The Lord has promised to take care of his children.

I will now give you a verse to sing; but first sing the verse in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing, singing first the first verse, and then the second.)

"Only love and fear the Lord,
Lift your hearts to him in prayer,
Rest upon your Savior's word,
God will for his children care.
When the overwhelming flood
Came upon a world of sin,
Noah made an ark of wood,
God was pleased to shut him in."

LESSON L.

SOMETHING MORE ABOUT THE FLOOD.

PART FIRST.

"When the dark and heavy cloud
Lifts on high its awful form,
And above us, pealing loud,
Rolls the thunder of the storm;
Do not fear the lightning's flash,
God directs it where to fall;
Do not fear the thunder's crash,
For your Savior rules them all.

Only love and fear the Lord,
Lift your heart to him in prayer;
Rest upon your Savior's word,
God will for his children care.
When the overwhelming flood
Came upon a world of sin,
Noah made an ark of wood,
God was pleased to shut him in.

All who are, like Noah, his,
God will safe to glory raise;
There to dwell where Jesus is,
See his face and sing his praise.
Those who early love thy name,
Thy regard shall ever prove;
'Tis thy promise now I claim;
Savior, deign my soul to love."

DEAR children, I suppose you would now like to hear something about the great storm and flood, how it came upon the earth, and

what became of the people and all that was on the earth at the time, as well as what became of the ark and all who were in it. Would you not? I know you would. So you shall hear about it.

Now, on the very day that Noah and his family left all their relatives, friends, and companions, and bid adieu both to them and the Old World, and entered the ark, and were safely locked in by the hand of the Lord, what happened? The Lord brought the flood as he said he would. As we are told, the fountain of the great deep was broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened, and it rained upon the earth forty days and forty nights. So that there was a very great flood upon the earth.

The flood of water rose higher and higher, and after awhile it took up the great ark and bore it away on its swelling waves; it covered first the houses and trees, and then the tops of the highest mountains; and what had become of all the people, as well as the animals, of the earth? O, every creature died. Yes, while the ark floated safely upon the surface of the water. The wicked were all drowned in the mighty deep, for there was

not a living creature in all the world but Noah and those that were with him in the ark.

For you see, up to this dreadful hour, the time in which Noah entered the ark, the people had not repented, though they had been faithfully warned.

There are some verses, children, that will help you to keep this part of the lesson in mind. You may now repeat them in concert.

(The children repeat.)

"But God no more will silence keep;
He pours his wrath from high,
Unlocks the fountains of the deep,
And windows of the sky.
The clattering rain
Descends amain;
The rivers roar,
The torrents pour;
The waters rise,
Till piteous cries
No more are heard beneath the skies.
At first, in flocks,
Men climb the rocks;
Nor fear to creep
Up mountains steep;
But waters flow
Where'er they go,
And wash them to the depths below.
Behold just Noah safely ride
Upon the mighty deep;
While all who once God's Word defied,
Beneath the waters sleep."

Children, you have seen how Noah moved into the ark, and how the Lord brought the flood upon the earth; that the ark bore Noah in safety over the waters, and that the wicked were all drowned in the mighty deep; but what would Noah do now? He and his family were all alone in the world, he out upon the mighty deep, and there was no dry ground for the ark to rest upon. Would Noah be forgotten? O, no! the Lord remembered Noah.

So he began to dry up the flood; he caused a great wind to pass over the earth, and the waters became lower and lower, and at last the tops of the mountains were seen, and the ark rested upon Mount Ararat. But how was Noah to know when the waters would be all gone?

I will tell you, children, what Noah did. Noah opened the window and sent out a raven, which flew away and did not return again to the ark.

You see, the raven being a ravenous bird, it strayed away, it would seem, to feed upon the dead carcasses or bodies that were still floating upon the water.

Then Noah sent out a dove. But the

dove found so much water that she returned in the evening, and Noah took her into the ark again. Seven days after this Noah sent the dove out again, and she returned in the evening with an olive leaf in her mouth. And what would the leaf show? The leaf would show Noah that the waters were gone.

You see, the dove was a little messenger. It brought a green leaf from an olive-tree, and so let Noah know there was peace in the earth, that is, being saved from the wickedness of the wicked there was no more storm nor flood upon the earth.

Children, to all who believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit is a messenger of peace. It lets their soul know that God's anger is turned away from them, and they are saved from their sins. O! what a comfort to know that we have peace with God!

Noah had now been in the ark about one year, and I suppose, children, you are ready to say, O, how glad Noah must have been to know that the waters were disappearing! Yet he would not leave the ark till God would open the door, and told him to come out.

You have seen how the people neglected

to repent at the proper time, that is, the time which God gave them to repent; that when the flood came it was too late. So it will be with the wicked when the flood of God's wrath shall overtake them the last day. It will then be too late to repent.

You see, the sinner who neglects to repent when God gives the opportunity can not escape punishment.

There are some verses about it which you may now repeat.

(The children repeat in concert.)

"Awake, asleep, at home, abroad,
I'm seen by thee, a holy God;
God's eye can see my secret grief,
Can wipe my tears, and give relief.

He smiles in heaven, he frowns in hell,
He fills the air, the earth, the sea;
I must within his presence dwell,
And can I from his justice flee?

Yes, I may flee, he tells me where;
Tells me to Jesus Christ to fly;
And while he sees me weeping there,
There's only mercy in his eye."

I hope, children, you will remember that Jesus is the only place of safety, and if you would be saved at the last day, as well as to have a good report given of you to the world,

you must flee to Jesus now while you have opportunity.

You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"When the dark and heavy cloud," etc.

PART SECOND.

We will begin this part of the lesson by singing the last hymn in the first part of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Awake, asleep, at home, abroad," etc.

Now, when, at the command of God, Noah and his wife, and his three sons with their wives, and all the animals, left the ark and were safe on dry ground once more, what do you think was the first thing that Noah did? He built an altar unto the Lord, and took of every clean animal, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt-offerings on the altar, and called upon the name of the Lord in prayer, and so with his family worshiped God.

But what did Noah's worship of the Lord show? I will tell you, children. By his worship, Noah would not only wish to thank

the Lord that he and his family, with all the animals, had been preserved in the ark all the time of the great flood, and had been saved from being drowned in the mighty deep; but he showed very particularly that he believed God had showed him mercy and saved him from being destroyed with the wicked by the flood, because a Savior had been promised to the world who would yet come and die to save him. For you know the burnt-offerings that were offered by Noah showed that the Savior would die for the world.

You see, the Lord had remembered Noah in mercy, and so Noah determined when he would come out of the ark that he would not attend to any thing till he had first thanked the Lord for his goodness and showed his belief.

And do you think, children, that God was pleased with Noah's belief? He was so much pleased with Noah's belief, that he not only accepted his worship, but gave him a very great promise. What was it? The promise was this: he said he would never again for any wickedness of man destroy the ground, nor kill every living creature as he had done

by the waters of a flood; and promised there should be seed-time and harvest, Summer and Winter, day and night, so long as the earth remained.

Seed-time is the time to plant such things as grow out of the ground, and harvest is the time to gather the fruits of the earth.

You see what great things the Lord will do for those who believe in Jesus the Savior so as to be saved. He not only beautifies the earth with trees, and grass, and flowers, and causes it to bring forth its fruits for food both for man and beast, but when the world will be at an end he will give them a home in heaven.

(The children sing.)

And the Lord blessed Noah and his sons, and every living thing that was in the earth, in the air, and in the water, and all that came out of the ark, and gave them the whole earth to live in.

And the Lord made Noah, and his sons, and their descendants head over every thing in the world, and gave them power over all the animals on the land, in the air, and in the water. He also gave them a kind of food besides fruit, and corn, and vegetables,

that he had never allowed them to have before. What kind of food, think you, was it? It was the flesh of animals—they might eat the flesh, but not the blood, for the blood of an animal is its life.

And he now gave them an order that every murderer of man should be put to death.

Children, when a person murders another, which of the ten commandments do they break? (Replies.) Repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

But besides all this, children, what was the Lord pleased to do? He was pleased to say to Noah he would give him a sign of his promise, that he would never again visit the earth with the waters of a flood to destroy it; that he, that is, Noah, might look upon it and remember that God shows mercy to the world and all its people, with every living creature, and saves it because it has a Savior. And now what do you think was the sign? God said his bow, that is, the rainbow, should appear in the clouds when it rained.

The rainbow was a sign of God's promise to Noah, that he shows mercy to the world, and saves it from being drowned by the

waters of a flood, because it has a Savior; but what sign has God given the world that he will save poor sinners from the flood of his wrath? Like the beautiful rainbow, Jesus Christ is the sign of God's promise to save poor sinners from being destroyed by the flood of his wrath with the wicked in hell.

Now, children, how is it if you would be saved from being destroyed with the wicked in hell? When ministers tell you about your sins and what you must do to be saved, obey the word of the Lord, that is, flee to Jesus, the only place of safety, ere it be too late, and what then: according to the sign as well as the promise, you shall be brought home to heaven in safety.

You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"When the dark and stormy cloud," etc.

and the other

PART II.

Lessons from the New Testament.



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THE
INFANT CLASS MANUAL.

PART II.

LESSONS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT.

LESSON I.

ABOUT JOHN THE BAPTIST.

"If I were a voice, a persuasive voice,
That could travel the wide world thro',
I would fly on the wings of the morning light,
And speak to the men with a gentle might,
And tell them to be true,
Be true. (ECHO: Be true.)
And tell them to be true.
(ECHO: And tell them to be true.)

I would fly, I would fly o'er land and sea,
Where a human heart might be,
I would tell them a tale, or I'd sing a song
In praise of the right, in blame of the wrong,
And tell them to be good,
Be good. (ECHO: Be good,)
And tell them to be good.
(ECHO: And tell them to be good.)

If I were a voice, a consoling voice,
I would fly on the wings of the air,

The houses of sorrow and guilt I'd seek,
And calm and truthful words I'd speak,
And whisper of sweet hope,
Sweet hope. (ECHO: Sweet hope,)
And whisper of sweet hope.
(ECHO: And whisper of sweet hope.)"

DEAR children, I am now going to tell you something about John the Baptist. Do you ask who he was? John the Baptist was a great prophet, and lived at the same time that Jesus did, and was called the Baptist, because he baptized people.

You know what it is to be baptized; that the water is a sign of having the soul made clean from sin, by the Holy Spirit.

Why was John called the Baptist? (Replies.) What is the water of baptism a sign of? (Replies.) What does the water show? (Replies.)

A prophet was one who told what was to happen in time to come. How could the prophets know what was to happen before it would come to pass? They could not indeed know it of themselves; but, you see, God would show them the things that were to happen by his Holy Spirit, or he would tell them what they were to prophesy; what they were to say would happen in time to come. What is a prophet? (Replies.)

I will now tell you about Zacharias and his wife, Elisabeth.

Zacharias was a priest, and Elisabeth was the daughter of a priest. They were both very good and religious people. You may repeat this text about them.

(The children repeat.)

"They were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord, blameless."

Now, Zacharias and Elisabeth had become quite old people, and as yet had no children. And so an angel appeared to Zacharias while he was worshiping God in the Temple, and told him his prayers were heard, and that his wife, Elisabeth, should have a son, and they should call his name John, and said, "Thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God;" that is, the Jewish people.

And Zacharias asked him how he should know it would be as he had said. "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God, and am sent to speak unto thee, and to show thee these glad tidings. And behold, thou shalt

be dumb, and not able to speak until the day that these things shall be performed;" and as the angel said this, what happened? Zacharias was struck dumb and could not speak a word.

You see, he asked the angel for a sign that it should be as he had said. Why? Because he did not altogether believe what the angel told him; and the sign that was given was, he was dumb, and not able to speak, and would be so till what had been promised had been fulfilled.

It would seem that Zacharias had been praying for a child, and that the angel Gabriel had been sent to him with a promise from God that he should have a child in answer to his own prayers, for what did the angel say? Thy prayer is heard. And yet the angel was really not believed, and Zacharias, because he was so slow to believe what the angel said, was dumb.

What was the angel's name? (Replies.) To whom was the angel sent? (Replies.) What did he tell Zacharias? (Replies: The angel told Zacharias that his wife Elisabeth should have a child.) And what was the child's name to be? (Replies.) What did

the angel first say to Zacharias? (Replies: Thy prayer is heard.)

Zacharias was not to be dumb always, for you know the sign was to last only—how long? (Replies.) But in what way could it be brought about that he should speak again? You shall hear about it, children, how it came about.

Now, after the child was born, the mother said his name was to be John; but her friends wondered at this; for they said neither the father nor any of the relations were called John. They went to the father and asked him what the child should be called; and as he could not speak, he made signs for a writing-table, and wrote, "His name is John." Then, what think you happened? Zacharias's tongue was loose, and he spoke and praised God; and said to his son, "Thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Lord, for thou shalt go before his face to prepare his ways." Whom did Zacharias mean here by the Lord? (Replies: The Lord Jesus Christ.)

Who was this child, children? Let me tell you. This child that we have been talking about was John the Baptist. You see

who John's parents were; that his father's name was Zacharias, and his mother's name was Elisabeth, as well as how it was they came to have such a child as John, that they had no child till John was given them.

But how was John going before Christ to prepare his ways? I will tell you, children. John was to begin to preach before Christ, and teach the people to repent of their sins, and be ready to see and hear the promised Savior, as well as to let them know the Savior had come into the world, and was just about to appear among the people as the Son of God.

You may now repeat the first hymn:

"If I were a voice," etc.



LESSON II.

ABOUT JOHN THE BAPTIST.

JOHN was to teach the people to repent of their sins. Why? That they might be a people prepared of the Lord to have the promised Savior introduced to them.

What more was said about the child John? It is said that he grew and became strong in

spirit, and that he lived in the desert; that is, in a country place, till the time come in which he was to begin to preach to the people. His clothing was camel's hair, girt about him with a girdle, or belt, and his food was locusts and wild honey. What was John's clothing? (Replies.) Yes. That is, a sort of coarse cloth.

What was John's food? Locusts and wild honey. Now, children, you may think it very funny that John ate locusts. You would not eat locusts, would you? But in the East, poor people gather the young locusts just before they begin to fly, as they crawl out of the ground, and when they are fried in butter, they make a very wholesome food. I have read that the Indians in California gather and roast grasshoppers to eat, and that they taste like hickory-nuts, and are really good to the taste. Well, John ate these locusts. May be he roasted them; and then he ate honey with them. Wild honey is made by wild bees, and their nests are in hollow rocks, trees, etc. The honey we get is made in bee-hives. Did you ever see a bee-hive? The bees gather honey from the flowers, and whenever the sun shines on the

flowers, the bees are out at work. You may repeat these little verses:

"How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every opening flower!

How skillfully she builds her cell,
How neat she spreads the wax,
And labors hard to store it well
With the sweet food she makes!"

When John told the people who he was, that he was the person whom one of the prophets wrote about, as a voice crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, would they know what particular person John meant to say he was?

You see, one of the prophets who lived many hundred years before John was born, prophesied that when the Savior would be about to show himself to the people as the Son of God, and long-promised Savior, a particular prophet would go on before him to prepare his way; that this particular person would be the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord. So the people would know John to be that person who was to go on before the Lord to

prepare his way, and might now expect to see the promised Savior of the world.

You may now see why John was called the prophet of the Lord; that as a herald he proclaimed his coming, and pointed him out to the people, that they might know the very person who was the Savior of the world.

You may now repeat the verses in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children repeat.)

"If I were a voice," etc.

LESSON III.

ABOUT THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD.

PART FIRST.

"Let children hail the Savior's birth!
He comes to bless our ruined earth;
He comes with pardoning love and grace,
To save our guilty, dying race.

Hail, Jesus, hail! with heart and voice
We sing thy welcome, and rejoice;
And while we live shall praise to thee
Our song and joy forever be."

DEAR children, you know how the people of the world were destroyed by the flood which God brought upon the earth, that there

was no one in all the world but Noah and his family. But the sons of Noah had children, and grandchildren, and their children had children and grandchildren, and so on. So that the world was filled with people again, as you now see it.

You remember, children, about the promise of God to Adam and Eve; how a child should be born, who would one day destroy all the power of Satan, and so bring the world back again to God.

Now, it was a very long time from the creation of the world to the time when God destroyed the earth by the flood; and it was many hundred years, even after the flood, before God fulfilled his promise, and sent his Son into the world.

You see, God would have all the people of the world know about his Son after the flood, as well as before, how he would come into the world to die for them, that they might be saved from their sins.

From time to time, that is, every now and then, the prophets would prophesy about the coming Savior, as they were taught of God. They not only told how it would be with him while he would be in this world, and

about his death; but they told about his mother; that she was to be a virgin, and what time he might be expected to come into the world; that his mother being of the family of King David, he would be born a prince as well as a Savior, and would have a right to the throne of David.

A king is a ruler, and the place where he sits to rule the people, and give them laws, is called a "throne."

David was one of the first kings who ruled over the people called the Jews. And the Jews, children, were a very particular people, they were the people whom God had chosen for himself, that he might teach them about his Son, and so let them know of what nation the Savior would come.

Jesus was sometimes called the Son of David, because he was a descendant of King David, and had a right to his throne, as a prince or a king.

When did God send his Son into the world? Was it after the flood or before it? (Replies.) How did the people after the flood get to know about the promised Savior? (Replies.) How would the prophets get to know things about the coming Savior, so

many hundred years before he lived on the earth, or before the things they told were to come to pass? Who would instruct them? (Replies.) How were they to prophesy?

Of what king was Jesus a descendant? (Replies.) By right of his mother Jesus was born a prince, and was an heir to a particular throne. Whose throne was it? (Replies.) Through whom did Jesus become an heir to the throne of David? You know to be an heir to the throne, is to have a right to be a king. (Replies.) Of what family did his mother belong? (Replies.) Yes, and as such, over what people would he have a right to be king? (Replies.) Why had Jesus a right to be king over the Jews? (Replies: Jesus would have a right to be king over the Jews because he was a descendant of King David, and belonged to the house of David.) Who were the Jews? (Replies.)

God taught the Jews about his Son, and the Jews were to let the other people of the world know how he would come, and where he would be found, as well as of what people he would come.

When the proper time came in which God

would fulfill his promise, the Son of God came into the world, in the very way the prophets said he would come.

Some months after the angel Gabriel had appeared to Zacharias, and told him his wife should have a son, he appeared to Mary, the cousin of Elisabeth, for God had now sent him with a message to Mary; and how would Mary feel when she would see the angel? and what would God have the angel to tell Mary? You shall hear about it, children.

When Mary first saw the angel she was afraid, but the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found favor with God," and told her she was to be the mother of the Son of God, and that when the babe would be born, she was to call his name "Jesus." For he should save his people from their sins. The word Jesus means Savior.

Then the angel appeared to Joseph, the person to whom Mary was promised to be married, and told him that by the power of the Holy Spirit Mary would be the mother of the promised Savior of the world.

What a precious name the name of Jesus is! It shows God's good-will to man, that he

would have us saved from our sins. Will you not love that name more than ever, now that you know, children, what it means?

There is a hymn about the name of Jesus. I will sing the verses for you, and you may join in the chorus.

(The teacher and children sing.)

"There is no name so sweet on earth,
No name so sweet in heaven,
The name, before his wondrous birth,
To Christ the Savior given.

CHORUS.

We love to sing around our King,
And hail him blessed Jesus!
For there's no name
So dear, so sweet as Jesus.

His human name they did proclaim,
When Abram's son they sealed him,
The name that still, by God's good will,
Deliverer revealed him.

CHORUS—We love to sing, etc.

And when he hung upon the tree,
They wrote this name above him,
That all might see the reason we
For evermore must love him.

CHORUS—We love to sing, etc.

So, now upon his Father's throne,
Almighty to release us
From sin and pain, he gladly reigns,
The Prince and Savior Jesus.

CHORUS—I love to sing," etc.

LESSON IV.

ABOUT THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD.

PART SECOND.

How did Mary feel when she saw the angel? (Replies.) What did the angel say to Mary to encourage her not to be afraid of him? (Replies.) What did the angel tell Mary? (Replies.) What did the angel tell Joseph to do? (Replies.) Who was Joseph? (Replies.) What did the angel tell Joseph Mary's first-born son should be? (Replies.) What name did the angel say to both Mary and Joseph they should call him? (Replies.) How was Mary to be the mother of the Son of God? (Replies: By the power of the Holy Ghost.)

So Joseph, as he was instructed of God by the angel, took Mary to be his wife. Their home was in Nazareth, a town of Judea, in the country of Canaan, and now known by the name of Palestine.

After some months, along with many other people, Joseph and Mary were obliged by the laws of the land to leave their home for

a short time, and go to Bethlehem, another town of Judea, where King David was born. For Joseph as well as Mary was a descendant of King David, and belonged to the family of David.

The people had now assembled at Bethlehem in such numbers, that when Joseph and Mary arrived in the city there was no room for them in the inn, that is, in the public house or hotel, and so they had to lodge in a place that was a sort of barn or stable for camels and other beasts.

But why did they not go to some private house?

It was a common thing for travelers to lodge in these barns or stables, being partly built for that purpose; and it might be Joseph and Mary were strangers in Bethlehem, and had no friend's house to go to, and would have to go where they could be accommodated.

And while they were there what happened? that is, what great event took place? I will tell you, children. Our blessed Redeemer was born. Mary brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, or bands—as was the custom in those times—

and laid him in a manger. She had no pillow—only straw, to lay him on.

What is here meant by a manger, children, is a stall. For you know stables have mangers or stalls in them, that is, places for the beasts to stand in. And people who have traveled through that country tell us that in these mangers there are troughs, from which the beasts are fed. It might be some such place in which the infant Redeemer was laid.

Now you may sing.

(The children sing.)

"Christ was born in Bethlehem,
Christ was born in Bethlehem,
Christ was born in Bethlehem,
And in a manger laid."

Was Jesus born to poverty or to wealth? Jesus was born to poverty. Is it any dis-honor to be poor?

Do you know what these stables were called? I will tell you. They were called caravansaries; but why? You know a caravan is a company of persons with their beasts traveling together over a desert, or some part of a country to another place.

You can see for yourselves, children, why these stables, such as our Redeemer was born

in, might be called "caravansaries," that a company of persons with their beasts, traveling together, could lodge in them. (The teacher should have a picture of Oriental buildings, and hold it up before the class.)

This picture, children, represents the interior or inner part of a building roughly finished, having the common conveniences of a stable, mangers, or places for the beasts, with troughs for the cattle's food. Coarse straw is scattered about, and some of it is gathered, and helps to soften the infant's bed. How gently the mother lays her helpless babe upon his coarse bed! Who ever had a humbler or more lowly birthplace than the Redeemer of the world? Yet he was greater than any prince that was ever born in a palace; he was the Prince of Peace, King of kings, and Lord of lords.

But why did Jesus leave his Father's throne on high and come into this world and become poor?

Children, you may repeat the text in the Bible about it.

(The children repeat.)

"Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he

became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich ;" that is, rich in heaven.

There are some verses which mothers sometimes sing to their little ones. You may now repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"How much better thou'rt attended
Than the Son of God could be,
When from heaven he descended
And became a child like thee!

Soft and easy is thy cradle,
Coarse and hard my Savior lay,
When his birthplace was a stable,
And his softest bed was hay.

May'st thou live to know and fear him,
Trust and love him all thy days;
Then go dwell forever near him,
See his face and sing his praise."

LESSON V.

ABOUT THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD.

PART THIRD.

DEAR children, you have seen from the last lesson how Jesus was once an infant. What is an infant? (Replies.)

Now, many people came to see the infant Savior, but how would people know the

Savior was born? You shall hear about it. First, the angel of the Lord appeared to some shepherds, who were watching their flocks by night in a field near Bethlehem, to tell them the Savior was born.

You know a shepherd is one who takes care of sheep. These shepherds had to tend their sheep by night, and why? to protect them from wild beasts and robbers.

When the angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds, the glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were afraid.

What is here meant by the glory of the Lord is a bright light; but what light was it, children? Angels shine like the sun, but God shines brighter than the sun. It was neither the light of the moon nor of the sun.

You see, this light was some of God's glorious brightness, called "the glory of the Lord."

And when the shepherds saw the angel and the light, how were they affected? (Replies.)

And the angel said to the shepherds, "Fear not, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you

is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." And he told them how they would know the Savior, that they would find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. And suddenly while the angel was talking, there appeared with him a multitude of the heavenly host, that is, many more angels, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men.

There are some verses about this part of the lesson. You may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

Fear not, said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled minds,
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
To you and all mankind.

To you in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line,
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign.

The heavenly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapt in swaddling bands,
And in a manger laid.

Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels, praising God on high,
Who thus addressed their song:

All glory be to God on high,
And on the earth be peace;
Good-will henceforth from heaven to man
Begin and never cease."

And when the angels were gone away into heaven again, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they went immediately with haste and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe, as the angel had said, lying in a manger, and they rejoiced greatly."

And do you think they would keep what they had seen a secret? O, no! Jesus was the Savior of the world. The shepherds would have the people of Bethlehem know their Savior was born, and to spread the glorious news abroad, they told what they had seen and heard, and returned to their homes glorifying and praising God.

And when the infant Savior was eight days old his parents had him called Jesus, according to God's law, which you know was to be Jesus.

Who did the angels say the Savior was when they told the shepherds he was born? (Replies.) Yes. And so he is called Jesus Christ the Lord.

God's chosen people were said to be the children of Abraham. And, you know, Jesus came of the chosen people, for his mother, as well as Joseph, were of the Jewish nation.

Children, you may sing the hymn about the name that was given to the Savior when he was eight days old.

(The children sing.)

"There is a name so sweet on earth," etc.



LESSON VI.

ABOUT THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD.

PART FOURTH.

I WILL now tell you, children, about some other persons who came to see the infant Savior.

Joseph and Mary having brought the child Jesus into the Temple at Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord, as was the custom, Simeon came in to see him.

But how could Simeon know that the child

Jesus was in the Temple? Simeon, children, was a very good man. The Lord had told him he should not die till he had seen the Savior. And as he was waiting to see him, for he was now very old, the Holy Spirit directed him to come into the Temple; and when he had found him he took him up in his arms and said, "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Children, Jesus is the salvation of God. You know the meaning of his name. In Jesus God can have mercy upon poor sinners that they may be saved.

Simeon had now seen the salvation of God for himself; he knew that in Jesus he was saved.

While Simon had the child Jesus in his arms, and was talking about him, another person came in to see the infant Savior—Anna the prophetess, who was a widow of great age, and served God night and day with fastings and prayers; and when she saw the child she thanked God, and spoke of him to others.

After this, where did Joseph and Mary go with the child Jesus? for you know they

were now in the great city of Jerusalem, where the Temple was.

As the Savior was born, it would seem Joseph and Mary thought they must now leave Bethlehem. So they left Jerusalem and went to Nazareth to get their things, and then left Nazareth and went back to Bethlehem to make it their home.

How long was it from the creation of the world to the time when the Savior was born? It was four thousand and four years. When was Christ born? (Replies.) You may sing the verse about it.

(The children sing.)

"Christ was born in Bethlehem," etc.

Now, children, I will tell you about some persons who came a great distance to see the infant Savior, after Joseph and Mary had returned to Bethlehem—wise men from the East. God made known to them that the Savior was born by a star, which appeared in the East where they lived. But how would they know where to find the Savior? God caused the star to go on before them till it came and stood over where the young child was.

First, the wise men followed the star till

they came to Jerusalem, and here they stopped to inquire of Herod the king where they might find the Savior, saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews, for we have seen his star in the east, and have come to worship him?"

Whom did the wise men mean by the King of the Jews? (Replies: Jesus.) Why was the star called his star? The prophets had told about this star; but what kind of a star do you suppose it was? It was a bright light that looked like a star.

Now, when King Herod heard what the wise men said he was troubled; for he thought the new-born king would take away his kingdom. He inquired of the chief priests and scribes where the prophets had said Christ should be born, and they told him that Christ was to be born in Bethlehem of Judea.

So he told the wise men to go and find the child, and when they had found him to bring him word, saying, that I may worship him also. And did Herod really wish to worship Jesus, think you? He only wished to know where he was that he might destroy him, that is, kill him.

The star was waiting for the wise men, and when they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy? They followed it to Bethlehem, till it stood still over the very house where the Savior was; and when they had found the young child with Mary his mother, they fell down and worshiped him; and they presented unto him gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

You see, the wise men not only honored the Savior as a king, by presenting him with a present of gold, but they honored him, also, as a God and Savior by offering him frankincense and myrrh, costly and precious gems used in offering sacrifices.

And being warned of God in a dream not to go back to Herod, the wise men returned home to their own country another way.

Children, do you not love to worship the Savior? Does it not give you joy to hear about Jesus the Savior of the world, and tell others about him, how he was born that he might become our Savior?

You may now sing the verses you sung in the first of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Let children hail the Savior's birth," etc.

LESSON VII.

ABOUT THE HOLY CHILD JESUS, OR THE FLIGHT
INTO EGYPT — AND JESUS WHEN BUT
TWELVE YEARS OF AGE.

“Jesus Christ loves little children,
And he waits to do them good;
Should not children, then, love Jesus?
Yes, indeed, they always should.

When they sing a hymn to praise him,
He delights that hymn to hear;
When they kneel to pray before him,
He attends, for he is near.

He can keep them safe from danger,
Guide them all the time they live;
Then let children come to Jesus,
Who has so much good to give.”

DEAR children, we told you in your last lesson about the wise men; that when they stopped at Jerusalem to inquire where they might find the King of the Jews, the young child, whose star they had seen in the East, Herod was troubled, and having found where the prophets had said where the Savior was to be born; how he sent them to Bethlehem, and told them when they had found the child, to let him know; but that being warned of God in a dream, they did not let King

Herod know where the child was, and so returned home to their own country another way.

What child did both Herod and the wise men wish to find? (Replies: The child Jesus.)

Now, when the wise men had left Bethlehem, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, and said to him, "Arise and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word, for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt." Why did they have to flee into Egypt? (Replies.)

You see they could be quite safe in Egypt, for Egypt was governed by another king, and Herod could not hurt the child there. And you know they went by night, while people were asleep, so that it was dark and no one could see where they went.

How could Herod seek the young child to destroy him? You shall hear about it, children, what he did.

When King Herod saw that the wise men had not done what he required of them, that

they had disobeyed him, he was exceedingly angry, and sent forth and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, from two years old and under; that is, all that were less than two years old. And the poor mothers of Bethlehem were weeping and mourning for their children.

King Herod killed all the children of Bethlehem that were two years old and under, that he might be certain that Jesus was put to death; but was the child Jesus killed? No. You know Jesus was not there, that his Father, God, had sent him away to Egypt; he would not let Herod kill him.

You can see for yourselves, children, how God saw the wicked thought that was in Herod's heart. He knew Herod did not wish to worship Jesus, that he only wished to destroy him; but God took care of the child.

When Herod deceived the wise men, by causing them to think he wished to worship, when he intended to kill him, which of the ten commandments did he break? (Replies.) You may repeat the ninth commandment.

(The children repeat.)

"Thou shalt not," etc.

And now that Herod had murdered the dear little ones of Bethlehem, which of the commandments had he broken? (Replies.) You may repeat that commandment.

(The children repeat.)

"Thou shalt not kill."

Herod killed all the dear little children in Bethlehem; but God took care of their souls. He took them home to heaven, and punished the cruel and the wicked king.

There is a hymn about these things. You may repeat it, children.

(The children repeat.)

"Behold how God with watchful care,
Preserve the child from Herod's snare;
Guards him from every hurtful thing,
But strikes with death the cruel king.

Let parents trust their faithful God,
Lean on his staff and kiss his rod;
Bind his rich promise to their heart,
Nor from his law and love depart.

Hear now his Word and do his will;
In darkness trust his presence still;
In his kind arm your children lay,
And follow where he marks the way.

The rich provisions of his grace,
Our children and ourselves embrace;
And in his guardian care we 'll trust,
E'en though he lay them in the dust."

LESSON VIII.

ABOUT JESUS.

You remember that Joseph was to remain in Egypt till the angel would bring him word what he was to do. So when Herod was dead God sent the angel again to Joseph, and told him to return to the land of Israel, as one of the prophets had said, "Out of Egypt have I called my Son."

And Joseph took Jesus and Mary, his mother, and went back to the land of Israel, and they all lived in the town of Nazareth.

And the child Jesus grew more and more lovely; soon he began to walk and talk. He obeyed his parents. He was so good that he never did any thing wrong, and never sinned any. He was a very wise child, and loved to think about God. God his Father loved him because he was so good. And every one who knew him loved him. The older he grew the more they loved him.

Children, would you not wish to mind your parents, and be good like the child Jesus, so as to have your Heavenly Father

love you as well as your friends, and all who may be acquainted with you?

There are some verses that will help you to remember about it, to try to be good like him. You may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior,
Once became a child like me;
O, that in my whole behavior
He my pattern still might be!

All my nature is unholy,
Pride and passion dwell within;
And the Lord was meek and lowly,
And was never known to sin.

While I'm often vainly trying
Some new pleasure to possess,
He was always self-denying,
Patient in his worst distress.

Let me never be forgetful
Of his precepts any more;
Cross and passionate and fretful,
As I've often been before."

Dear children, we told you in the last lesson about Joseph, that the angel having brought him word Herod was dead, and told him to return to the land of Israel; how he took the child Jesus and his mother and brought them back to their own country, and all lived in the town of Nazareth. You know

Nazareth was the town in which Joseph and Mary lived before Jesus was born.

We also told you about the child Jesus, how very lovely he was; that he never did any thing wrong, and never sinned any; that he loved to think about God, and that God, his Father, loved him, and every one who knew him loved him.

Children, would you not like to be like the child Jesus? Then try to do as he did, and ask God to make you good and holy.

You may repeat the hymn which you said over in the forepart of the lesson.

(The children repeat.)

Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior," etc.

Perhaps you wonder why Joseph did not go back to Bethlehem? I will tell you, children, how that was. You see, Herod's son was king instead of his father, so that Joseph was rather afraid, and thought that Nazareth would be a safer place for the child Jesus to be in than Bethlehem.

Now, as Jesus was twelve years of age, his parents took him with them to Jerusalem, where they went at a certain time every year to attend a great religious feast

of the Jews called the "Passover," and so worshiped the Lord.

You know, children, about how God taught people a way to keep his promise in mind that he would send Jesus into the world to redeem them by his blood. So, you see, at the Feast of the Passover the people would have a lamb sacrificed, which would show how the Savior would die once to take away sin.

You may now sing the hymn about the Lamb. You know Jesus was to be the real Lamb.

(The children sing.)

LESSON IX.

ABOUT JESUS WITH THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW IN THE TEMPLE.

AFTER the Feast of the Passover was over, and the people were ready to return home, Joseph and Mary, with a company of friends and relatives who were going in the same direction, all left Jerusalem together; but Jesus remained behind; his parents sup-

posed him to be in the company with some of their relatives, and so did not miss him till they had gone a long way on their journey, and when he could not be found they immediately returned to Jerusalem; and on going to the Temple, to their great surprise, they found him sitting among the learned men, both hearing and asking them questions.

Children, you may look for a moment at the child Jesus as his parents found him in the Temple after looking for him for three days. He is surrounded by learned men, he only twelve years of age. You see the learned men; they are listening to what he says; they are astonished at his wisdom and understanding.

Where would Jesus get his great wisdom? Jesus was not only good and holy, but he was God's own Son, and was like God, and was God. This was why Jesus had such wisdom. And his mother said to him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. Jesus seemed surprised that they could either think him lost or found when he was only obeying a higher parent than either his

mother or Joseph, and said, Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

In what way would Jesus be about his Father's business? It would be by obeying, loving, and serving him with all his heart.

There are some verses which you may repeat.

(The children repeat.)

"So young, and at my Father's work,
While yet in tender youth?
Dear Jesus, I would follow thee,
And early seek thy truth.

The house of God shall be my choice,
His Word my richest joy;
There shall I hear my Father's voice,
And there my heart employ.

My early years, my strongest powers,
I consecrate to thee;
My waking and my sleeping hours
Forever thine shall be."

What would Jesus do? Would he live with his parents again? Soon we find them all on their way to Nazareth, where Jesus lived with his parents as a dutiful and obedient child. The Bible tells us that he was *subject* unto his parents, which means, children, that he submitted to be guided and controlled by them.

Jesus not only showed children how they

were to love and serve God with all the heart, but he set them an example of filial obedience, that is, obedience to parents. In which of the ten commandments does God require us to render such obedience to parents? (Replies.) You may repeat the fifth commandment.



LESSON X.

ABOUT THE BAPTISM OF JESUS.

"Soon as I heard my Father say,
Ye children seek my grace;
My heart replied, without delay,
I'll seek my Father's face.

Let not thy face be hid from me,
Nor frown my soul away;
God of my life I'll fly to thee,
In each distressing day.

Should friends and kindred near and dear,
Leave me to want or die,
My God will make my life his care,
And all my need supply.

Wait on the Lord, ye trembling saints,
And keep your courage up;
He'll raise your spirit when it faints,
And far exceed your hope."

DEAR children, you know about John the Baptist, how he was to prepare the way for

Jesus to begin his great work of saving sinners, and was to point him out to the people, that they might know who he was—that he was the Son of God, the promised Savior of this world.

But how would John himself know who the Savior was when he should come, that he might point him out and declare him to be the Savior of the world? I will tell you.

You see, from what John knew of Jesus he would believe in him, that he was the promised Savior of the world; but then he could not point him out to the people as the Savior till God would give him a sign that Jesus was his son, whom he had sent into the world to save sinners, as he had promised John he would.

You shall now hear how it came that God gave John the sign that Jesus was his Son, as well as what the sign was.

Now, when Jesus was about thirty years of age, he came from Galilee to Judea to John to be baptized of him. But John was unwilling to baptize him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

You see, John felt that he was not good enough to baptize so holy a person as Jesus.

Jesus, however, said to John, Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness.

So John consented to baptize Jesus.

And having baptized him, as Jesus went up straightway out of the water, what did John see? Lo! the heavens were opened to him, and John saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon Jesus. And lo, a voice from heaven saying, This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.

As Jesus went up from the water, what took place? (Replies: *The heavens were opened, and the Spirit of God descended and lighted upon Jesus.*) What way did the Spirit descend? (Replies: *Like a dove.*) Who saw the Spirit? (Replies: *John.*) Yes. And it was the sign which had been promised to John, by which he should know that Jesus was the Son of God. What voice was heard from heaven? (Replies: *This is my beloved Son.*) Who uttered the voice? (Replies: *God the Father.*) Why were these words spoken? (Replies: *That the people might know Jesus was the Son of God.*)

There are some verses, children, that will help you to remember about this, and you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Lo, a voice from heaven is heard,
Listen now to every word;
'This is my beloved Son,
Christ the Lord, the Holy One!
Hear ye him!' commands the voice,
'Hear your Savior and rejoice.
Pleased in him, my Son I love;
See, on him I send the Dove.'
Children, Jesus comes to you,
Will you love and praise him, too?
Give your hearts to him, and pray
That your sins be washed away?"

LESSON XI.

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS.

I WILL now tell you something, children, about Jesus, when he had been in a wilderness forty days and nights and had eaten nothing all that time.

After Jesus was baptized he went into a wilderness place by himself alone, it would seem, to pray and think about the great work he had now, to begin to be the Savior of the world; for Jesus was God's Lamb, and

must die to take away sin and give the Holy Spirit, so that he might put the law of God in the mind and heart, that sinners might be saved.

But how could Jesus live so long without eating any thing? God strengthened the body of Jesus and kept it alive.

Did any one ever fast so long a time as Jesus? Yes, children, Moses, who gave God's holy law to the Israelites, and Elijah, a great prophet, both of these men, like Jesus, fasted forty days and nights.

You know what a wilderness is; that it is a wild, lonely place where there are no houses or people, but where there are wild beasts. It was into such a place as this that Jesus went. Jesus could keep the wild beasts from hurting him, for he created them.

Now, when Jesus had been in the wilderness forty days and nights, who should come to him to tempt him but Satan? I can not tell you, children, how Satan looked. But it may be that he came pretending to be a man who would wish to know something more about Jesus being the Son of God. Satan knew that Jesus was that mighty Prince who was to destroy all his power, and would wish

if possible to get him to give up the thought of bringing the world back again to God, so as to save people from their sins. And, knowing that Jesus was very hungry, he thought it would be a good time to tempt him to do as he would wish him to, and so came to Jesus, as we have told you, pretending to be a man who would wish to know something more about Jesus being the Son of God, and said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. And Jesus answered him and said, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. That means, bread only feeds our bodies, but we must have the Word of God to feed our souls.

Then Satan took Jesus to the top of the Temple, a very high part, and said to him, If thou be the Son of God, throw thyself down this place; your Father will send his angels to keep you from being hurt, for you know how he has promised to take care of you. But Jesus would not do so, and told him what the Word of God said; that it said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

Then the devil took Jesus up into a high mountain, and in some way showed him all

the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them, and said to him, All these things will I give thee if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

And now what did Jesus say? He called him by his name, and said, Get thee hence, Satan, God's Word is, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. It showed Satan how he could not be master, for God was master over all in heaven and earth.

You remember Adam and Eve minded Satan and disobeyed God. How did Jesus do? He did all that his Father wished him to, and was obedient.

Then Satan had to go away. And the angels of God came and ministered to Jesus, that is, gave him some food.

Children, I hope you will not forget how Satan tempts people to do wickedly. He goes about seeking whom he may destroy.

What does God tell us to do in his Word that we may avoid Satan? He tells us to draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to us. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

If you but mind what God has said, pray

to him, and trust in him, he will take care of you, and will not let Satan harm you.

You may now sing the first hymn in the lesson.

(The children sing.)

“Soon as I heard my Father say,” etc.



LESSON XII.

ABOUT JESUS, OR THE FIRST MIRACLE—THE WATER MADE WINE.

“Deeply are our hearts polluted,
He can cleanse and keep them clean;
To his holy nature suited,
While his witness dwells within.”

“How dreadful, Lord, will be the day
When all the tribes of dead shall rise;
And those who dared to disobey
Be dragg'd before thine angry eyes!

Great God, I tremble at the thought,
And at thy feet for mercy bend;
That when to judgment I am brought,
The Judge himself may be my friend.”

DEAR children, it is said that Jesus now began to do many wonderful works called miracles. What is a miracle? A miracle is something which can not be done by any power but by God's power alone.

You shall now hear about the beginning of miracles, that is, the first one Jesus performed, which we read of in the New Testament.

After the temptation of Satan in the wilderness, Jesus returned to Bethabara, where John was baptizing, and a few days afterward we find him in Cana, a town in Galilee, six miles from his own home, where, with his mother and some disciples, he attended a wedding feast.

What was the name of the town in which Jesus lived with his parents? (Replies.) How far was it from Cana to Nazareth? (Replies.) In what place were both of these towns, Cana and Nazareth? (Replies.)

It was customary among the more respectable people in those countries for wedding feasts to last seven days, and it was also customary to have wine at weddings.

One of the persons who were married, it is supposed, was a relative of the mother of Jesus.

Now, as it would seem from some reason or other, there was not wine enough for the whole time of the feast, and that the mother of Jesus did not wish the company to know

there was no wine; and so, knowing about her son, that he was not only kind but would have power to help the family in their trouble, she went to Jesus and said to him, They have no wine. And Jesus answering his mother said, Woman, what is that to thee? mine hour is not yet come. What is it to thee? that is, what is it to you and me—to us; as if he had said, What is it to us—to you and me? it does not belong to us to provide for the feast. You shall see my great works when the proper time comes for me to work.

The mother of Jesus having told the servants to do whatsoever her son would bid them do, Jesus looked and saw six large water-pots, or stone jars kept for the purpose of holding water, and he told the servants to fill them with water; and when the servants had filled the whole six jars with water to the very brim, Jesus told them to take some of it out and give it to the governor, or ruler of the feast, that is, the person who takes care of the feast; and the servants took some out; but what now had happened to the water? The water was changed into wine! The servants could see that it was red,

they could smell the flavor that it was wine.

Now, the ruler of the feast did not know about the wine, how it was made, nor where it came from, but when he had tasted it, he declared it *good* wine; calling over, that is, across the table, to the bridegroom, he told him people generally gave their best wine at the beginning of the feast, and the poorer wine toward the last of the feast, but he had given them the poorer wine first, and kept the good wine till now, that is, for the last of the feast.

You see, Jesus could change water into wine, for he was the Lord, and created the waters.

When the disciples of Jesus saw his great power, they knew him to be the Christ, and believed that he was the Son of God.

When Jesus would speak to his mother, by what name would he call her? (Replies.) Yes; the appellation Woman was considered honorable as well as respectful.

In answering his mother as he did, did Jesus mean to reprove his mother for speaking to him about the wine? No; but he would wish his mother to see that the proper

time had not yet come for him to begin his great works, and show forth his glorious character and power; yet, while he let her know this in as gentle a manner as possible, he showed his mother his love for her by attending to her wishes, and so provided the wine that was needed for the rest of the feast.

You see, Jesus would have us feel the want of his mercy—feel our need of him in all our troubles, especially when we are in trouble about our sins, that we can not be saved without Jesus; while he would show us he knows *best when* and *how* to work so as to make known his glorious power to us, in saving us from our sins, that we may know Jesus, for ourselves, to be the Christ, the Son of God.

There are some verses that will help you to remember about the first miracle Jesus performed; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

“O, wondrous power! surprising skill!
He changes water at his will;
And lo! the sparkling wine, the best,
Flows forth to cheer each wedding guest.

My Lord, my God! thy glories shine
In this and every work of thine;
And call my soul with joy to raise
Her song of high, adoring praise.”

LESSON XIII.

THE PURIFICATION OF THE TEMPLE.

WHAT did Jesus call his body? He called it a temple. Why? Because, as God, it was the place in which he was pleased to show forth his presence.

Children, you may repeat what Jesus said about his body one time when talking with some persons.

(The children repeat.)

“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will build it up again.”

It is said of Jesus that he did his great works of his own power alone.

After Jesus had turned water into wine, he, and his mother, and his disciples left Cana, and went for a short time to Capernaum, and from that place all went to Jerusalem to attend the Passover. At this feast Jesus did many wonderful works, and the people thought him to be a great prophet sent to them from God.

In the place belonging to the Temple called the court, where the people would

come to see the sacrifices offered and to worship God, the people had been allowed to have booths and stalls, for the purpose of keeping sheep and oxen, as well as other things, to sell for the sacrifices; also, to have tables, where they might change money for the strangers who would come to attend the feast; and when Jesus saw this, he picked up some small cords and made him a whip of them, and as he held it up what did the people do but rush from before him in one great crowd out of the Temple court; and he drove out the sheep and oxen, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and said, Take these things hence! make not my Father's house a house of merchandise!

And some of the Jews came to Jesus and asked him to give them a sign of his authority; that is, whether he was a prophet, and had a right to drive the buyers and sellers out of the Temple. And Jesus said, Destroy this temple and in three days I will build it up again.

What did Jesus mean? You see, he spoke of his death and resurrection; that when they would kill his body, he would raise it again by his *own* mighty power.

But why did the people make such a great rush out from before the presence of Jesus when he had ever been so meek and mild, for seemingly he did not strike even one of the beasts, much less any of the people. Ah! they could not stand the holy wrath—that is, a wrath without sin—that now flashed from the eyes of Jesus, nor stand the power of his words, while they beheld the uplifted whip in his hand. They felt how they had sinned, and thought God would now punish them for their wickedness.

If the people could neither bear this wrath that flashed from the eyes of the meek and holy Jesus, nor stand the power of his words, while they beheld the uplifted whip in his hand, taking it to be a sign that God was about to give them some dreadful punishment, what will the wicked do in the last day? For when they shall see Jesus as he is with their own eyes, they will know the judgment-day, the day of punishment, has come.

Jesus will then be the great Judge of all the earth. How will the sinner bear either his wrath or his words?

When John the Baptist pointed Jesus out

to the people, what did he say? Children, you may repeat the text, that is, what John said.

(The children repeat.)

"Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world!"

Children, Jesus would have us feel our need of him. Why? that he may take all our sins away—make our hearts clean and pure, and so save us from his wrath, and the punishment of God in the day of judgment.

You may now sing the verse, children, at the beginning of Lesson XII.

(The children sing.)

"Deeply are our hearts polluted," etc.

LESSON XIV.

ABOUT JESUS AND THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA.

PART FIRST.

"Lord Jesus, teach a little child
What this great change can be,
And send thy Holy Spirit down
To work that change in me.

My heart is sinful and defiled,
I feel it every hour;
Nor can I ever change that heart
Without thy Spirit's power.

Come, then, O Holy Spirit come!
Renew this heart of mine;
I would be born again and cleansed
By sovereign grace divine."

DEAR children, people would come in great crowds to hear Jesus preach, as well as to see and hear him perform miracles, but sometimes Jesus would teach people in a more private way; that is to say, people would come to Jesus alone by themselves, and he would converse with them; while at other times, Jesus would take the opportunity himself of speaking to persons when they would be alone, and so converse with them about the things of God. I will tell you about one of these conversations.

The heart of Jesus was ever full of love and pity for poor sinners. So, after having attended the Feast of the Passover, and purified the Temple court, and taught the people for a time near the Jordan, on leaving Judea to return to Galilee, he determined to go by the way of Samaria.

When Jesus came to Samaria, near the city of Sychar, which at first was called Sychem, it was in the heat of the day, that is, about noon-time, and being wearied with his journey, Jesus sat down by a well, called

Jacob's well, while his disciples went on to buy some victuals.

Children, Jacob, the patriarch or father of the Israelites, was said to have lived once near this well, and he gave the ground to his son Joseph.

You may now think for a moment about Jesus as he sits by the well. The weather is exceedingly warm, and he is weary from walking, he is hungry, and he is thirsty.

Now, while Jesus sat by the well a woman of Samaria came with her pitcher to get some water, and being thirsty, Jesus asked her to give him a drink; and she refused, saying, How is it you ask drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria, for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans? As if she had said, Why do you ask me for a drink? The Jews and the Samaritans are not friendly toward each other; they neither receive favors nor give favors.

Jesus said to her, If thou knewst the gift of God—that is, what God could give—and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink, thou wouldst have asked of him and he would have given thee living water. The woman then said to Jesus, Sir, thou hast nothing to

draw with, and the well is deep, whence then hast thou that living water? And Jesus said to her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again, but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water, springing up into everlasting life. Then she said to Jesus, Sir, give me this water that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

You see, the woman did not quite understand Jesus when he spoke of living water; she thought he meant some spring, the water of which was better than any other, and that if she could only have some it would make her quite happy, for she would never feel thirsty any more, and would save her the trouble of coming to the well to draw water, and so wished to have some of it.

What was this living water that Christ could give?

Children, this living water was the Holy Spirit.

You see, the Holy Spirit is called water. Why? because as water makes our bodies clean, so the Holy Spirit washes away our sins.

Now, children, you may repeat the answer Jesus gave the woman when she told him he had nothing to draw with, that the well was deep, and wished to know where he had the living water he spoke of.

(The children repeat.)

“Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again, but whosoever drinketh,” etc.

LESSON XV.

THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA.

PART SECOND.

Now when the woman of Samaria wished for some of the living water that would make her happy, Jesus told her to go and call her husband, and she said she had no husband; Jesus told her that was true, and then told her all about herself, what she had done, how she had had five husbands, and the person with whom at present she lived was not her husband.

Surely, children, the woman would wonder how a man who was not only a Jew, but a perfect stranger to her, could know all the

secrets of her whole course of life; and would think of what he said about the living water that it must mean something more than she had really thought.

You see, when Jesus told her the secrets of her life, she thought God, in some way, must have told him about it, and so said, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. And after some further conversation, Jesus told her who he was, that he was the Christ that was to come. On hearing this, O what joy now filled the poor woman's heart! She left her water-pitcher and ran away to tell her friends and neighbors about Jesus, saying, Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did! is not this the Christ?

What did Jesus say would happen to those who would drink of the water from the well? (Replies.) How did Jesus say it would be with those who would take of the living water that he would give them? (Replies.) What did Jesus mean by living water? (Replies.) How did Jesus say this living water should be in their souls? (Replies.) But what did Jesus mean by saying they shall never thirst?

You see, this thirsting means wishing for

something to make us happy. The Spirit that Jesus gives us will make us happy. We shall not wish for any other happiness when the Spirit shows us Jesus who died for us; for, as we are told in the Bible, he is the chiefest among ten thousand, and the one altogether lovely, and in him does all fullness dwell.

There is a text declaring how our Heavenly Father will give the Spirit to those who ask him; you may repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

“If ye, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more your Heavenly Father shall give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him!”



LESSON XVI.

ABOUT NICODEMUS.

DEAR children, I will now tell you something about a conversation that happened one time before the one we have just told you about, while Jesus was yet in Jerusalem, at

the time he drove the buyers and sellers out of the Temple court.

A man named Nicodemus, ruler of the Jews, wished to see if Jesus were really the Christ that was to come; for as he was a Jew, he would believe himself to belong to his kingdom, and would expect to have a right to a share in it, and so would wish to have some conversation about it.

So Nicodemus came to Jesus by night, and said to him, Rabbi—which means Master—we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles except God be with him. Knowing just what Nicodemus thought about himself, that he thought surely he would belong to Christ's kingdom, and have a right to a share in it because he was a Jew, Jesus said to him, Verily, verily, except a man be born again he can not see the kingdom of God.

What is it to be born again? Children, you know something of what it is to have a new heart: to be born again is to have the heart changed from a bad to a good heart. There is a text about the heart before it is changed; you may repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." Jeremiah xvii, 9.

There is another text about the heart when it is changed; you may repeat.

(The children repeat.)

"Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you and ye shall be clean; from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh." Ezek. xxxvi, 25, 26.

Now, Nicodemus did not know what Jesus meant when he told him he must be born again, and wished to know how a person could be born the second time when he had become old. And Jesus answering, said, Verily, verily I say unto you, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he can not enter into the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

To be born of water is to be baptized, and to be born of the Spirit is to have the heart changed from a bad to a good heart.

You see, Jesus would have us all learn, as

well as Nicodemus, that we can not belong to his kingdom, much less, as the children of God, have a share in it, unless we are born of the Spirit—as well as to be baptized.

Children, have you a wicked heart? (Replies.) Do you pray God to give you a new heart? You know Jesus would have you ask God to give the Holy Spirit, so as to have your heart changed from a bad to a good heart. And you know, too, that if you do not have your heart changed, that you can neither be a child of God nor go to heaven. Do not forget what Jesus says about it. What does he say, children? (Replies: *Ye must be born again.*) You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the previous lesson.

(The children sing.)

“Lord Jesus, teach a little child,” etc.



LESSON XVII.

ABOUT REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

DEAR children, you have seen that if sinners would be saved, they must be forgiven

and have their hearts changed from a bad to a good heart, and have the Holy Spirit in them, to live in their souls. But that sinners might be forgiven and have new hearts, and their souls filled with the Holy Spirit, as Jesus passed on through Samaria, and came to Galilee, he preached the good news of the kingdom of God; how God's promise to the Jews about his Son, the Savior of the world, was now fulfilled, and that the time had now come in which the prophets had said the Savior would begin his Church in the world. What did he say to the people that they must do? He told them to repent and believe the Gospel, and that he was their Savior.

You know the Gospel is the good news about Jesus the Savior; how he came to die that he might take away the sin of the world, that whosoever believeth in him might not perish but have everlasting life. And that you may remember what Jesus said, you may now repeat the text about it.

(The children repeat.)

“Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the Gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of

God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the Gospel."

Children, I think you already know something about what it is to repent; that to repent is to be sorry for having sinned; and you can see for yourselves that if sinners wish to be forgiven, first of all they must repent of their sins; and that they must do so because God commanded them to repent.

And remember, children, all people everywhere are commanded to repent, because all have sinned!

Now, what will become of those who will not repent? They will be punished; God will shut them out of heaven and cast them into the bottomless pit with the devil and his angels.

Many sinners refuse to repent because they love sin; and they love sin because they have wicked hearts. And here, you may ask, how can they repent if their hearts are wicked? Has God done any thing for them to help them?

It is true, the sinner has a wicked heart; but then the Holy Spirit will help them to repent if they will but let him do so, and not grieve or send him away.

When sinners repent, what must they do to prove or show that they are really sorry for having sinned? I will tell you, children; they must *leave off* sinning.

There are two verses, children, which may help you to remember about this; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Shall we grieve the Holy Spirit,
Who, despising not our youth,
Would assist us to inherit
All the wealth of heavenly truth?

He doth show the young beginner
That in him there's nothing good;
He can lead the vilest sinner
To the Savior's precious blood."

But just here we would ask, when does God require you to repent? I will tell you, children; God requires you to repent *now*. For you know if you were to put off repenting you might die; then the time for repenting would be gone and you would be lost.

Do you think you are sinners? (Replies.) What then ought you to do at once? (Replies: *Repent.*) Yes; and remember how the Holy Spirit will help you, if you will but let him, and not grieve nor send him away.

There are two verses which you may now repeat.

(The children repeat.)

"Deeply are our hearts polluted,
He can cleanse and keep them clean;
To his holy nature suited,
While his witness dwells within.

Lord, no longer may we grieve thee,
Lest the day of grace depart;
O that each may now receive thee
To a humble, willing heart!"

If sinners would be forgiven and saved, what is required of them besides repentance? They must have faith in Jesus Christ. For what does the text say? It says, Repent ye, and believe.

You already know something about faith; that faith in Jesus Christ is trusting or believing in him, that God will have mercy upon us because he died to save us.

And you know, too, something about what is done for those who trust in Jesus to be saved, how they have all their sins pardoned and have their wicked hearts changed into good hearts; and that God does this great work for those who believe in Jesus, by his Holy Spirit, and gives them the Spirit to be in their souls, which makes them happy.

For we have already told you about these things, and how happy people are when they believe in Jesus. Will they always be happy? They will, children; if they always believe, they will be happy while they live, and after death will enjoy eternal or everlasting life.

What does the text say of those who will not believe? You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

"He that believeth not, shall not see life."

You see, there is no other way for sinners to be saved but by believing in Jesus Christ who died for them.

Would Jesus have little children believe in him? That you may do so, Jesus said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and took them up in his arms and blessed them.

Now, children, there are some verses which you may repeat.

(The children repeat.)

"Repentance is to leave
The sins we loved before;
And show that we in earnest grieve,
By doing so no more.

Lord, make us then sincere,
To watch as well as pray;
However small, however dear,
Take all our sins away.

And since the Savior came
To make us turn from sin,
With holy grief, and humble shame,
We would at once begin."

LESSON XVIII.

ABOUT CHRIST'S HEALING THE NOBLEMAN'S SON.

So Jesus passed on preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, as we have told you, and came to Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And a certain nobleman who lived in Capernaum, hearing that Jesus had left Judea and was now in his own country, came to Cana to ask Jesus to come to Capernaum, for he wanted Jesus to heal his son, who was very sick and was at the point to die; and when he asked Jesus to go with him and heal his son, Jesus said to him, Except ye see signs and wonders ye will not believe.

You know, children, Jesus had just been in Samaria, where the Samaritan people, when they saw Jesus and heard him, could see and know him to be the Son of God, the Savior of the world, and believed in him without

his performing miracles. But we are told that some of the Jews, called Pharisees, were unwilling to believe in Jesus unless he would first show them some wonderful miracle.

The nobleman, however, loved his child most dearly, and was afraid Jesus would not go and heal him, and so besought Jesus again to go, saying, Sir, come down ere my child die. And then Jesus told him to go back, for his son would live.

But why would not Jesus go to Capernaum with the nobleman?

You see, children, the nobleman had faith in Jesus that he could make his son well; but then it was not just the right kind of faith, or was very weak. He seemed to think Jesus could not heal his son without going to Capernaum, and doing something there for the child. But Jesus would wish to *teach* the man *who* he was; that he was the son of God and was God, and could heal his son just by the word of his power, where he was.

So, as the nobleman was going back he met his servant coming to tell him his son was well. And the father asked the servart what time he began to amend; and he said, Yesterday, at the seventh hour—that is, one

o'clock in the afternoon—the fever left him. The nobleman now knew that it was Jesus who had made his son well; for it was the very time in which he had said to him his son would live, and he had believed his word.

Jesus did more for the child than the father had asked of him; he could see, and knew just how it was with the child, for he is ever nigh; he did not wait till he and the father could travel to Capernaum, which was twenty miles away, but made the child well that very moment, or it might have died, and he would wish to save it from dying.

Could the child see Jesus his Savior when he made him well? No; but then, you see, Jesus was there with him in his presence and power to cure him, even though he could not see him.

There are some sweet verses about Jesus being ever nigh; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Dear Savior, ever at my side,
How loving thou must be,
To leave thy home in heaven to guard
A little child like me!
Thy beautiful and shining face
I see not tho' so near;
The sweetness of thy soft, low voice
I am too deaf to hear.

I can not feel thee touch my hand,
With pressure light and mild,
To check me as my mother did
When I was but a child.
But I have felt thee in my thoughts,
Fighting with sin for me;
And when my heart loves God, I know
The sweetness is from thee.

And when, dear Savior, I kneel down,
Morning and night to prayer,
Something there is within my heart
Which tells me thou art there.
Yes, when I pray, thou prayest, too—
Thy prayer is all for me;
But when I sleep, thou sleepest not,
But watchest patiently."

So the nobleman having heard what his servant said, knew that it was Jesus who had made his child well in a moment; what then? Why, he and all his family believed in Jesus that he was their Savior, whom God had promised, and loved him in their very hearts.

How do we get faith? where does it come from? Children, faith is the gift of God; it is God who gives us the power to believe.

What is it to be born again? (Replies.) Who is it that shows sinners their sins, and helps them to repent when they do not send him away or grieve him? (Replies: *The Holy Spirit.*) Who is it that works the great change in those who believe in Jesus,

when their hearts are changed from bad to good hearts? (Replies: *The Holy Spirit.*) When those who repent believe in Jesus, who is it that lets them know in their souls their sins are forgiven, that they are born again, and are God's dear children? (Replies.) And after the sinner is born again, who is it that lives in their hearts to show them Jesus and make them happy, so as to cause them to feel that they are saved and will go to heaven when they die, if they will but always believe? (Replies.)

You can see, children, how good and merciful God has been to sinners; he sent his Son into the world to die for them, and sent down his Holy Spirit to help them, and make them good, that they might be saved and live with him in heaven forever, if they will but repent and believe in Jesus.

Those who have not repented nor believed in Jesus are in danger every moment of dying in their sins, and of being lost forever.

Children, Jesus is now in heaven, but then, remember he sees you, and is ever nigh to save you, if you will believe in him. There are some verses which I think you would love to repeat; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"My soul by nature's guilt depraved,
Lies at the point of death;
I feel I never can be saved
But by Almighty breath.

Dear Jesus, speak the word of power,
And bid my spirit live;
Renewed and cleansed, from this glad hour
My heart to thee I give.

Awaked from death the cross I see,
Whereon my Savior hung—
Where Jesus bled and died for me,
Although I am so young."



LESSON XIX.

ABOUT JESUS, OR THE RECEPTION AT NAZARETH—
THE DEMONIAC AT CAPERNAUM—THE STORM
AT SEA—AND TWO DEMONIACS AT GE-
NESARETH.

"Lord, what almighty power is thine?
How infinite thou art;
The devils hear thy voice divine,
And at thy word depart.

When Satan tempts my struggling soul
To draw my love from thee,
Do thou his fearful power control,
And come and rescue me."

DEAR children, in these times when Jesus lived in this world, unclean spirits would sometimes enter people for the purpose of

troubling and tormenting them, and would make them act as if they were foolish or crazy. And would not people be afraid of such persons? So long as they would not hurt any one people would allow them to go where they pleased, they would feel so sorry for them that they were so unfortunate as to be possessed of an unclean or evil spirit.

What is meant by an unclean spirit? An unclean spirit, children, is an evil spirit, a demon or devil.

On leaving Cana the second time, we find Jesus at Nazareth—his own town—where he was brought up. Having been away for some time, would not the people who had known Jesus from a little child be glad to hear him, now that he had begun his great work of preaching, as well as of miracles? Being in the synagogue on the Sabbath-day, Jesus read the Scriptures to the people and told them what it meant; and they wondered at the glorious words he spoke, while they could but see that what he said was true; yet they would not believe Jesus as their Savior, as they ought to have done, even though they had heard of the great miracles he had performed, and began to murmur

among themselves, saying, Is not this the carpenter's son? And so what did they do, but thrust him out of the city, and were about to cast him down over the brow of the hill on which the city was built, that they might kill him, but he escaped out of their hands. Jesus then left Nazareth and came and dwelt in Capernaum, that is, he now made Capernaum his home instead of Nazareth; and why? Because the people of Nazareth would not believe him as their Savior, as they ought to have done.

Why did Jesus leave Nazareth so as not to make it his home any more? (Replies.) When the people of Nazareth rejected Jesus, and would not receive him as they ought to have done, to what city did Jesus come? (Replies.)

And so on the Sabbath-day Jesus went into the synagogue to teach the people, and taught the people, and they were astonished at his doctrines, for he taught as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

You see, people would be astonished; for whatever Jesus would say, he would teach in his own name, while his manner or way of teaching was with great power and authority.

And there was a man among the people in the synagogue who was possessed of an unclean spirit; and when the unclean spirit saw Jesus, he cried out through the voice of the man, saying, Let us alone! what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth, art thou come to torment us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One.

What would Jesus do? Could he control the evil spirit? Would the evil spirit obey Jesus? Would Jesus speak to the evil spirit, or would he speak to the man in whom the spirit had entered? You shall see what was done.

Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and commanded him, saying, Hold thy peace and come out of him! And the unclean spirit obeyed Jesus, and came out, after giving the man all the pain he could in leaving him.

When the people saw this, how did they feel? When the people of Capernaum heard the teaching and instruction of Jesus, they thought him mighty in his words; but now that he had cast out the unclean spirit, they thought him mighty also in deeds. You may repeat the text about what they said

when Jesus did this great work of casting out a devil.

(The children repeat.)

“And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? What new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.”

LESSON XX.

THE STORM AT SEA.

SOME time after this, children, when he was making his second tour through Galilee, one day he was preaching to great crowds of people by the side of Lake Tiberias, and when the evening had come, wishing to go to the other side of the lake, Jesus with his disciples entered into a ship for that purpose; but now, while they were crossing over to the other side, a great storm came upon the lake. The wind blew, and the waves were boisterous. The ship was greatly tossed about, and the water came in upon it. And so terrible was the storm, that even the

sailors, who were accustomed to the storms of this lake, were alarmed, as well as the disciples. But in all this, where was Jesus? Jesus was asleep on a pillow.

You know how he had been talking to great crowds of people, and being weary, he had gone to the further end of the ship and laid himself down to rest; and he slept so soundly that neither the tossing of the ship, nor the noise of the wind and the waves, and the trouble of the sailors had aroused him. But now that the disciples thought the ship would go down under the water, and they would all be drowned, they were in a great fright, and they came and cried to Jesus, saying, Master! Master! carest thou not that we perish? And Jesus said to them, Why are ye so fearful? How is it ye have so little faith? Then Jesus arose, and commanded the wind, and spoke to the sea, and what happened? There was a great calm; the wind ceased blowing, and the waves of the sea were still, and all was quiet. And the men wondered and said, what manner of man is this, that even the winds and sea obey him?

You know, Jesus could cause the winds

and the sea to be as he would have them; for he was the Lord, he created them. When awakened by the disciples, what was the first thing Jesus noticed, the words of the disciples or the storm? (Replies.) What did he say to them? (Replies.) Yes, as if he had said, Could you not trust in me to take care of you? How could you think the ship could be lost while I am in it? How could you think you would perish or be drowned while I am with you?

Dear children, whatever troubles we may have in this world, if we only have Jesus with us, in our hearts by his Spirit, God will take care of us, and bring us in safety to heaven.

There is a sweet verse that may help you to remember this; you may now repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

“Jesus, lover of my soul,
 Let me to thy bosom fly;
While the nearer waters roll,
 While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O! my Savior, hide,
 Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide,
 O! receive my soul at last.”

LESSON XXI.

THE TWO DEMONIACS AT GENESARETH.

JESUS and his disciples were now landed in the country of the Gergesenes; when Jesus was immediately met by two persons possessed of unclean spirits, or devils. One of them was a very furious one; he lived among the tombs, and rocks in the hills and mountains. He could not be kept confined, nor from tearing his own flesh, while he would cry most hideously. He would not only tear off all his clothes, but he would break all the chains that could be put on him, and people were afraid even to go by the place where he was.

This man saw Jesus afar off, and so came down leaping and bounding over the hills and mountains to meet him. What was he coming for? To injure Jesus? No; but there seemingly was something in the man which caused him to feel he would like to come to Jesus; for when he came he fell down at the feet of Jesus and worshiped him. When the demon spoke out, as the other one

had done, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? And to a question Jesus asked, he said, My name is Legion, for we are many. And he besought Jesus to let them go into some swine that were feeding some distance off, for he knew Jesus would cast them out of the man, and Jesus said, Go.

So when these devils came out of the man they entered the swine.

You have seen how the unclean spirits knew Jesus. You know how God cast Satan with his angels out of heaven; they would know Jesus who he was, that he was the Son of God, for he came down from heaven. They would tremble when they saw him, they knew his great power to destroy them, when he would send them to the place of torment, which had been prepared for them. So, when, at the command of Jesus, the demons came out of the man, they entered the swine, and the swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and were drowned in the water.

Now, when the people heard what had been done, they came out to see Jesus about

it; and when they came, whom did they see sitting at the feet of Jesus, but the man out of whom the devils had been cast, clothed, and in his right mind?

When sinners are born again, born of the Holy Spirit, and Satan is cast out of the heart, how is it with them? Their souls are clothed with holiness, and they have the mind in them which was in Christ, and so are made to look like God again, and are brought to sit at the feet of Jesus, to learn of him about God's love to them. You may now sing the first verses in the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Lord, what almighty power is thine!"

After our hearts are changed, and our souls are made to look like God again, and we love him; when Satan tempts us to do wrong, and so draws us away from Jesus and his love, who is it that can control him?

(Replies: *Jesus can control Satan.*)

LESSON XXII.

JESUS MAKES CAPERNAUM HIS HOME—THE DRAUGHT OF FISHES, OR THE CALL OF THE DISCIPLES.

"Lord, we will come to thee,
While from pains and sorrows free;
While our day is in the dew,
And the clouds of life are few.

Then, when night and age appear,
Thou wilt chase each doubt and fear;
Thou our glorious leader be,
When the stars shall fade and flee.

Now to thee, O Lord! we come,
In our morning's early bloom;
Breathe on us the grace Divine,
Teach our hearts and make them thine."

DEAR children, you will remember that in the last lesson, on landing in the country of the Gergesenes, how Jesus was met by two men possessed of devils; and when the men were healed, that the devils whom Jesus cast out of the two men took possession of a herd of swine, and caused the swine, which in number were about two thousand, to run down a steep place into the water, how the whole herd of swine were drowned in the water, and so were all destroyed. How many swine were destroyed? (Replies.) Who de-

stroyed the swine? (Replies: *The devils.*) But why would Jesus permit the devils to destroy the swine?

You see, it was wrong for the people to keep swine the way they did. God forbid his own people, the Jews, to have swine. Jesus seems to have wished that the people might see how wrongly they were doing to keep swine, and so permitted them to be destroyed.

You know, when the people heard what had been done, the whole city came out to see Jesus. What had they come for? To thank and praise the Lord Jesus for the great work which he had done for them in healing the two men, who had been such a great annoyance to the whole place? No; the people wanted to be let alone in their wickedness, and so went out to see Jesus and ask him to leave the place. And though they could see what had been done for the two men, they besought Jesus to depart out of their country, and he did so; he entered a ship and passed over to the other side.

When did these things happen, before or after Jesus healed the first demoniac we told you of at Capernaum? (Replies: They hap-

pened some time afterward.) What place had Jesus left when he came to Capernaum, and for the first time healed a demoniac? (Replies.)

Yes, you know how the people of Nazareth would not hear Jesus preach, and believe in him, as they ought to have done, even though they knew about the great works he had done while he was away from them, and went about to kill him; but he escaped out of their hands, and left them and came to Capernaum.

When the people would see the great works of Jesus, see the miracles which he performed, and hear him preach, they knew him to be the Son of God, the promised Savior of the world; that he had come to save them from their sins, and so they would believe in him and become his disciples, and would be his followers as well as his friends.

You see, Jesus was the great teacher who came from heaven. He showed people the way to be good and get to heaven, while he himself would die for them that they might be saved; and a disciple is one who is a learner.

Now, who was the first disciple that Jesus

had? I will tell you; his first disciple was Andrew. And there was another person along with Andrew—perhaps it was John—who also became a disciple or follower of Jesus. And then there was Simon, whom Jesus called Peter.

You know Jesus had left Nazareth, so that Nazareth would not now be his home any more. Having begun his great works, Jesus would be away traveling from place to place, and from city to city, that he might heal the sick and preach to the people; but then he would want some place as his home, from which to start and come back to as he would take his journeys, as well as to have a place when he would not be away traveling, where he might both preach and receive the people who would wish to see him.

What place did he choose for a home? Having left Nazareth, Jesus chose the city of Capernaum for his home, and came and lived in a house which seems to have been either his own or that of Peter's.

Where would Jesus preach? As Jesus went from city to city, he would enter their synagogues and teach the Scriptures to the people. And sometimes he would preach

from a ship, and the people would stand on the shore near the edge of the water. And sometimes, again, he would preach from a hill or mountain, while the people sat or stood around a little below him.

But how did Jesus do? Would he go alone when he went about doing good and when he preached? You shall hear, children, how it was, and what Jesus did.

Jesus desired to have some of his followers or disciples leave their own work, and be with him, and attend him all the time, follow him wherever he went, and go wherever he sent them, that they might see all his great and wonderful works, and know that he was God; take a part in his work, and learn to preach his Gospel, and so be the beginning of the Church of Christ on earth.

I will now tell you, children, about the first disciples whom Jesus chose; that is, the way Jesus called them to leave all their own work and follow him, be with him, and attend him all the time.

One morning Jesus was walking on the beach near Capernaum, when soon a crowd of people quickly gathered around him; they had heard of his great works, and

wished him to preach to them the Word of God, which he was ever ready to do. But as the people pressed close around him, and being near the edge of the water, Jesus found he could not well speak to such a large number of people from the place he was now in. There were close by, upon the shore, two fishing-boats; the boats belonged to some fishermen who had been out all night upon the lake without catching any fish, and who, weary and disheartened, were now washing their nets, that they might lay them out to dry before they went home to get such rest and food as would fit them for another night's hard work. Into one of the boats Jesus entered, and desired the men who owned the boat to push out a little from the shore. And the men did so. Then Jesus spoke to the people, and preached to them from the boat; and all the people were on the shore near the edge of the water.

You see, the water between the boat and the shore would keep the people back off the boat from Jesus, while Jesus would be separated from the people, and be nigh enough to be seen and heard by them with advantage.

I suppose, children, you would like to know who the fishermen were, who owned the boats. The boat that Jesus was in belonged to Simon Peter, who was there with his brother Andrew. The other boat belonged to Zebedee, the father of James and John, the two boats working in partnership. You see now who the owners of the boats were, that they were the disciples and friends of Jesus; that is, Jesus had seen them all before, and they had believed in him that he was their Savior.

Now, as Jesus sat there in the boat, and had left off speaking, he directed Simon Peter to launch out into deeper water, and cast out his nets again. Peter told him how they had toiled all night and had caught no fish, but said, Nevertheless, at thy command, I will let down the net. He did so, and what happened? Presently it was found that such a great load of fish was caught in the net as was impossible for the two brothers to draw, or even the boat to manage. The net indeed began to break with their attempt to draw it. And now what did the brothers do? When they saw how the net was beginning to break, they called to their partners in the

other boat, to come quickly to their help; and when, by the help of James and John, the net was at last drawn, the fish in it filled both boats even to the danger of sinking.

At this wonderful miracle the fishermen were all greatly astonished. And Peter fell down at Jesus' knees, and said, Depart from me for I am a sinful man, O Lord! And Jesus said to both of them, that is, to Peter and his brother Andrew, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men; that is, he would make them preachers of his Gospel.

Before they had believed in Jesus and were his disciples; but this was now their real call to leave their own business and be with Jesus and attend him all the time. And so as soon as they had brought their ship to land, they left all and followed Christ.

And by the time John and James had gone with their boat to a place where they might leave their fish, and had returned home and were at work with their father mending their nets, Jesus with his two followers, Peter and Andrew, came up to the place where they were, and said to both John and James,

Follow me. And immediately they left all, and went with Jesus.

And now, my dear little ones, you have seen how Jesus left the country of the Gergesenes, when they besought him to depart out of their coasts, as well as how he left Nazareth.

You see, Jesus will not stay with those who will not love him. O, what a dreadful thing it is for any one to have Jesus leave him! For there is no Savior, no one in all heaven or earth who can save sinners from their sins but Jesus!

When Peter said to Jesus, Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord! how did he feel? Did he wish to be let alone in his sins? O, no! Peter, seeing the great miracle which he had performed, now felt how Jesus, though a man sitting there in the boat, was God also, while he himself was nothing but a poor sinner, and so did not deserve to have Jesus notice him so much as to make a minister of him, for Jesus had already told him what he wished of him.

Jesus is now in heaven, but what does he wish you to do, that he may make you good and holy, that you may follow him to heaven,

and be with him and live with him in his kingdom forever?

Children, this is what he says to every one of you, Give me thy heart? There are some verses which may help you to remember how Jesus is speaking to you. You may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Hear ye not a voice from heaven,
To the listening Spirit given?
Children, come? it seems to say,
Give your hearts to me to-day."

Sweet as is a mother's love,
Tender as the heavenly dove;
Thus it speaks a Savior's charms,
Thus it wins us to his arms."

Now, children, you may repeat the text that declares what Jesus wishes you to do.

(The children repeat.)

"Give me thy heart."

I hope, children, you will listen to Jesus and give your hearts to him at once, now while you are young. You may now repeat the verses in the first of the lesson.

(The children repeat.)

"Lord, we will remember thee," etc.

LESSON XXIII.

ABOUT JESUS CHOOSING THE TWELVE DISCIPLES,
AND THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT, OR THE
EIGHT BEATITUDES.

"Come, children, sing the song,
Jesus to bless us came;
Come, every child, and use your tongue,
To praise his blessed name.

Sing of his dying love,
Sing of his rising power;
Sing how he blesses with his love,
And how our sins he bore.

Sing, till we feel our heart
Arising with our voice;
Sing till the love of sin depart,
And Jesus is our choice.

Soon shall we hear him say,
Ye blessed children come;
Soon will he call our souls away,
And take us to his home.

Soon shall our happy tongues
His endless praise begin,
And sweeter voices help us sing,
Jesus our blessed king."

DEAR children, you have seen how Jesus wished to have some disciples leave all their own works, as well as their homes, and friends, and relatives, and be with him

and attend him all the time, follow him wherever he went, go wherever he sent them; that they might see all his great and wonderful works, and know that he was God, take a part in his work, and learn to preach his Gospel, and so be the beginning of Christ's Church on earth. You have seen, also, the way he called some of those disciples to leave all and follow him, but how many disciples did Jesus wish to have with him that he might make them his ministers? You shall see presently how many he chose and had.

Jesus went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God the Father; for you know Jesus was man as well as God. And in the morning he called his disciples unto him, and chose out of them just *twelve* persons to be his ministers, and called them apostles as well as disciples. And they called Jesus Lord and Master. Disciple, you know, means learner. But apostle means, some one sent.

Children, you may now say over the names of the twelve apostles in concert with your teacher.

(The children repeat.)

"Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alpheus, Simon, Zelotes, Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot."

I will now tell you something about a sermon that Jesus preached; seeing the multitude of people who had come out to hear him, as well as to be healed of their diseases, he went up into a mountain—Mount Olives—and when his disciples had come to him he began his sermon. And what did he say first? He began his sermon by pronouncing blessings—blessings that would make people happy.

The first blessing is, Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. What is it to be poor in spirit? It is to feel that we are sinners, and do not deserve any good. And the promise to the poor in spirit is, that they shall be happy in heaven.

Now, children, you may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

When people feel that they are sinners, and do not deserve any good, what are they

said to be? (Replies: Blessed.) Why are they said to be blessed? (Replies: Because *they have the promise that they shall be happy in heaven.*)

The second blessing is, Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

What is it to mourn? It is to be very sorry, or deeply grieved. And the promise to those who feel very sorry, or deeply grieved for the sin that is in themselves or others, is that they shall be comforted; that is, have their sorrow turned to joy. You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted."

When people feel very sorry or deeply grieved for the sin that is in themselves and others, what are they said to be? (Replies: *When people mourn for the sin that is in themselves and others they are said to be blessed.*) Why? (Replies: Because they have the promise that they shall have their sorrow turned to joy.)

What is the third blessing? It is this: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

What is it to be meek? It is to bear ill treatment without anger and revenge. And the promise to the meek is, Though the wicked may hurt them, God will take care of them and give them all they need.

You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

When people bear ill treatment without anger or revenge, what are they said to be? (Replies: *When people are meek they are said to be blessed.*) Why? (Replies: *Because they have the promise, though the wicked hurt them, that God will take care of them, and give them all they need.*)

What is the fourth blessing? The fourth blessing, children, is this: Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

What is it to hunger and thirst after righteousness? It is wishing to be holy that we may serve God without sin. And the promise to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness is, they shall be filled with holiness which will make them happy.

You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

When people are wishing to be filled with holiness, that they may serve God without sin, what are they said to be? (Replies: *They that hunger and thirst after righteousness are said to be blessed.*) Why? (Replies: *Because they have the promise that they shall be filled with holiness which will make them happy.*)

We have now told you about four of the blessings that Jesus spoke, or pronounced when he began his sermon on the Mount, that would make people happy. What is the first blessing? (Replies.) What is the second blessing? (Replies.) What is the third blessing? (Replies.) What is the fourth blessing? (Replies.)

You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the lesson.

(The children sing.)

LESSON XXIV.

ABOUT THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

WHAT is the fifth blessing? The fifth blessing is this: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

What is it to be merciful? To be merciful is to be good and helpful to all. And the promise to the merciful is, God will show mercy to them.

You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”

When people are good and helpful to all, even to the wicked, what are they said to be? (Replies: *The merciful are said to be blessed.*) Why? (Replies: *Because they have the promise that God will show mercy to them.*)

And you know, children, how we all need God's mercy, that without it we should perish.

What is the sixth blessing? The sixth blessing is: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

What is it to be pure in heart? To be pure in heart is to love God and keep out all wicked thoughts. And the promise to the pure in heart is, they shall see the beauty and the glory of God.

You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

When people love God and keep out all wicked thoughts, what are they said to be? (Replies: *The pure in heart are said to be blessed.*) Why? (Replies: *Because they have the promise they shall see the beauty and the glory of God.*)

There are some verses, children, that will help you to remember about these words of the Savior; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

“My gracious Lord! are these thy words,
And are they meant for me?
May I receive such blessings here,
And then my Savior see?

Yes, though I am a little child,
I may these blessings share;
For Jesus loves the youngest heart,
And he will hear my prayer.

Dear Jesus, make me pure and meek,
A humble child of thine;
A mourner for my sins, and then
These blessings shall be mine.

Both worlds shall my possession be;
Hope, peace, and joy in this—
In heaven the full fruition see
Of beatific bliss."

What is the seventh blessing? The seventh blessing is this: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

What is it to be a peacemaker? To be a peacemaker is never to disturb or afflict any one, and never to quarrel, but to persuade those who are quarreling to be quiet, and live in peace. And the promise to the peacemakers is, God will own them for his dear children.

You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

When people never disturb or afflict any one, and never quarrel, but persuade those who are quarreling to be quiet, and live in peace, what are they said to be? (Replies: *Peacemakers are said to be blessed.*) Why?

(Replies: *Because they have the promise God will own them for his.*)

What is the eighth blessing? The eighth blessing is this, children: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

When are people persecuted for righteousness' sake? It is when good people are hated and afflicted by the wicked, who can not love what is good and holy. And the promise to those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake is, they shall be forever happy in heaven, where the wicked can not hurt them any more.

You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

When good people are hated and afflicted by the wicked, who can not love what is good and holy, what are they said to be? (Replies: *When people are persecuted for righteousness' sake they are said to be blessed.*) Why? (Replies: *Because they have the promise they shall be forever happy in heaven.*)

Children, we have now said over the eight blessings Jesus spoke when he began his sermon on the Mount. What is the fifth blessing? (Replies.) What is the sixth blessing? (Replies.) What is the seventh blessing? (Replies.) What is the eighth blessing? (Replies.)

I hope, dear little ones, you will not forget these words of Jesus, that you may be happy here and happy forever in heaven.

You may now sing the hymn in the beginning of the preceding lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Come, children, to bless us Jesus came," etc.



LESSON XXV.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT—LOVE FOR OUR ENEMIES—THE LORD'S PRAYER—THE TWO WAYS.

DEAR children, we told you in our last lesson about the eight blessings that Jesus spoke, how he began his sermon when he preached on the Mount.

Now, as Jesus went on talking to the people in his sermon, he told them that they

were to love their enemies as well as their neighbors, and what they were to do toward those who did not use them well.

You may repeat the text about it, what Jesus said.

(The children repeat.)

"I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

There are some verses that will help you to remember about this; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Teach me this self-denying love,
For those who love not me;
And make me gentle, like the dove,
From every passion free.

As thou dost love, O Lord, teach me
To love each human face;
And in the poorest child I see,
There my own image trace.

Teach me that true, forgiving love
That pardons every foe;
That makes the heart like hearts above,
Which can no anger know."

Jesus also told the people how they were to pray, and what they were to pray for; and afterward, when his disciples came to

him, and asked him to teach them to pray, he gave them the prayer which he taught the people in his sermon on the Mount; and this prayer is called the Lord's prayer, because the Lord Jesus taught it to his disciples.

I suppose, children, some of you, if not the most of you, have learned to pray this prayer; you may now repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.”

There are some verses about this prayer; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

“Dear Jesus, I, a little child,
Would learn this perfect prayer;
But I am sinful and defiled,
And need thy constant care.

O, may thy Spirit teach this prayer
To my revengeful heart,
And bid each sinful passion there
To slumber or depart!"

There is a prayer for the morning when you first wake; I would have you learn it, children; you may repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

"All praise to Thee who safe hast kept,
And hast refreshed me while I slept;
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake
I may of endless life partake."

Now, children, there is another prayer I would have you learn, one for the evening when you go to sleep at night; you may repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take."

I will now tell you something more that Jesus said in his sermon on the Mount. As Jesus was preaching, he showed the people how there were but two ways or roads from this world to the next world. One road would take people to heaven; and what did he call this road? He called it the "strait

gate and the narrow way." But that the other way or road would lead people down to hell, where they would be destroyed. And this way he called the wide gate and the broad road. You repeat the text about these two roads.

(The children repeat.)

"Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life; and few there be that find it."

Which of these two roads will you choose, children? Will you choose the one that leads to heaven, or will you keep on in the one that leads down to hell?

Children, Jesus has showed us the way to be saved; if we follow him he will lead us to heaven. But if we keep on following after the sinful pleasures of this world we shall be led, where? down to hell.

That you may remember about these two roads Jesus has told us about, and not forget which one you ought to take that you may get to heaven, there are some verses, which you may now repeat.

(The children repeat.)

"My Father, wilt thou lead me through
The strait and narrow way?
Guard me from every dangerous snare
Nor ever let me stray?

I would forever shun the gate,
Though wide the passage be,
Where worldly pleasure, lust, and pride
Lead far away from thee.

The narrow gate, the narrow way,
The way my Savior trod;
There would I walk in humble joy
With those who walk with God."

LESSON XXVI.

ABOUT JESUS AND THE LEPER—THE MAN SICK OF THE PALSY.

"Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and power;
He is able, he is willing—doubt no more.

CHORUS.

He will save you, he will save you,
He will save you, just now;
Just now he will save you,
He will save you just now."

DEAR children, after Jesus had preached his sermon on the Mount, he took his journey

through Galilee, and the people followed him from place to place in very great crowds wherever he went. And whenever Jesus came to their towns and cities he would enter the synagogues, and the people would come out to hear him and bring their sick people to Jesus; and Jesus would teach them, and heal all the sick, whatever might be their sickness. For he never turned away any one who came to him seeking his mercy.

Now, there was one sort of disease or sickness which, as yet, no one had come to Jesus to have cured. What disease was it? It was the disease called leprosy.

The leprosy was a dreadful disease. If any one touches a person who has the leprosy he may catch it. So those who had the leprosy were required to go out of the city and live in a place by themselves. If a person had the leprosy he would have to bear it till it should go away of itself. No doctor nor medicine could cure the leprosy; though a prophet did once cure it, but then it was done by God's power. No one but God could cure the leprosy.

Those persons who had the leprosy heard about Jesus, and sometimes saw him at a dis-

tance, and would talk together about him. They knew the prophet Elijah had, some hundred years before that time, cured a leprous person; but as they had not heard Jesus preach, nor seen him perform miracles, they did not know if he could cure the leprosy.

At last there was one poor man among them who thought the Prophet of Galilee might cure the leprosy, and began to think he was really able to do so; but the question was, would he? Would Jesus deign to look upon such a loathsome, disagreeable-looking creature as he was—his eyes not only swollen, but red and fiery looking; his skin not only white as snow, but covered over with dark-red, scaly spots? He thought he would try, that he could but be refused. But then, again, how would he get to see Jesus? He would not be allowed to go into the cities, nor into any of the crowds of people where he was. At last he thought of a way, and that was to wait by the road-side, where he knew Jesus would have to pass by on his return home to Capernaum, after his second tour through Galilee. So he waited, and as Jesus came up to the place where he was, he

spoke to him, and said, Lord, if thou wilt thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand, and said, I will; be thou clean. And that very moment the man was cleansed of his leprosy.

You see, this leprous man was quite sure that Jesus was able to cleanse him from his dreadful disease, but he was not quite sure that he would be willing to do so. In letting the leprous man know that he was willing to cleanse him, what did Jesus say? (Replies.) But what did this leprous man do that he might be cleansed? (Replies: *He put himself in the way where he might see Jesus, and speak to him about curing him.*)

After this, Jesus cured other leprous persons. One time he cured ten persons all at once.

Children, like the leprosy, sin is a dreadful disease. Just as the leprosy makes the whole body sick, so sin makes the soul diseased.

After Jesus had performed this great miracle, and had come into Capernaum to the house in which he lived, where he could preach at seasons from the balcony, with his friends and others sitting around him, while

the people stood below in the court of the house; there were some persons who wished to bring a man who was sick of the palsy to Jesus, that he might cure him; but when they came to the house, as Jesus was preaching, the crowd was so great around the door they could not get into the house to take the man up stairs to the room which opened out on the balcony where Jesus was. So what did they do but carry the man on his bed to the top of the house, and let him down by cords at the feet of Jesus, through an opening which they made in the covering or roof of the place where Jesus was?

Was Jesus displeased with these persons for letting a sick man down at his feet when he was preaching?

When Jesus saw their faith, as well as how troubled the sick man was about his sins, seeing his sins deserved punishment instead of mercy, and so might not be cured, he said to him, Son, be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee. O, the loving-kindness of Jesus! How happy the man was, as well as his friends, to hear these words of Jesus! He felt that all was right, that he now had nothing to fear.

You see, children, this man's soul was sick as well as his body; what had made it sick? (Replies.)

Some of the scribes and Pharisees, who were sitting by, thought Jesus ought not to forgive sins, and reasoned within themselves about it, saying, Who can forgive sin but God alone? And Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said to them, What reason ye in your thoughts? Whether is it easier to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee, or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, he said to the sick of the palsy, I say unto thee, Arise, take up thy bed and go unto thine house. And immediately the man rose up before them all, and took up his couch, or bed, upon which he had been lying, and walked away to his own house glorifying God.

O! were not the friends happy that they had persevered in bringing this man to Jesus?

When Jesus, by his own mighty power, made the man who was sick of the palsy perfectly well in a moment of time, What did he show? Jesus showed who he was; that

he was God as well as man, and could forgive sins.

LESSON XXVII.

ABOUT THE HEALING OF THE IMPOTENT MAN.

BEING now the time again for the Feast of the Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem to attend this feast, which was the second one after he began to preach.

There was by the sheep-market at Jerusalem, outside of the city, a pool of water, that ran into a deep place, that is, a basin or reservoir, just under the wall of the city, beside which there was a place having five porches, called Bethesda, which means house of mercy—a place for impotent people to be in; that is, sick, weak, and helpless people, who would lie waiting for the moving of the water; for it is said that an angel went down at a certain season into the pool and troubled the water; and that whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

You see, at a certain time an angel might be sent to cause some spring of water, which no one knew of, that would cure sickness, to run into the pool, and as it would run down into the reservoir it would cause a great moving or bubbling up of the water.

So the people would wait in the porches, and the very moment they would see the water moving, what a hurry there would be to help the blind, the lame, the helpless people into the water, every one trying to be the first one to step into the water; but how would it be with them who, in the great hurry, could get no person to help them quickly? They would wait and wait on, with the hope that they might yet some time be able to get some one to put them in just at the right time to be cured of their sickness, whatever it might be.

Now, as Jesus came up to this place to go through the gate into the city, he could but see the crowd of sick people in the porches, waiting for the water to move. There was one, however, among them, who was a cripple; did Jesus notice him any more than any of the others sick, think you? The pitying eye of Jesus caught a glimpse of

him. He knew how very weak and lame he was, that he could not help himself, and had been sick thirty-eight years; while he could see how sick and lonely he looked lying upon his bed a cripple. Presently Jesus stopped to talk with this impotent man, for he had in his heart sympathized with this poor man that had no one to help him in his trouble, and said to him, Wilt thou be made whole? At this question, would not the impotent man, looking up to Jesus, feel in his very heart a wish that the person who was speaking to him might help him to be made whole? He thought that there was no other cure for him but to bathe in the waters of the pool of Bethesda; so, not knowing who Jesus was, he told him his troubles, how it was that he could not get cured, saying, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool; but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

What did Jesus do for the man? Jesus did not wait to help the man to step down into the pool to make him whole, but said to him at once, Rise, take up thy bed and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed and walked.

Jesus would have us see, that though we are miserable, helpless beings, yet there is both mercy and help for us in him; that he is not only able, but willing and ready, at any moment, to save poor sin-sick souls from their sins.

Children, as you look unto Jesus, do you wish in your very hearts to be saved just now? Jesus will not keep you waiting, he will save at once.

You may now sing the verses in the beginning of the preceding lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Come, ye sinners, poor and needy," etc.



LESSON XXVIII.

ABOUT JESUS AND THE MAN WITH A WITHERED
HAND—THE DEAF AND DUMB MAN—TWO
BLIND MEN—BARTIMEUS.

"Jesus, I come to thee,
Lamb of God! Lamb of God!
Be gracious unto me,
Lamb of God!
Sinful and poor am I,
Yet thou for sin didst die;
Look now with pitying eye,
Lamb of God! Lamb of God!
O, listen to my cry
Lamb of God!"

On thee alone I lean,
Lamb of God! Lamb of God!
None else can make me clean,
Lamb of God!
Wash me from every stain,
Nor let one spot remain;
Heal all my sin and pain,
Lamb of God! Lamb of God!
I can not plead in vain,
Lamb of God!"

DEAR children, you have seen how Jesus cured the weak and helpless man, the man who had been a cripple thirty-eight years, as well as those persons who had the leprosy and other diseases. Jesus cured all sorts of lameness. One time when Jesus was there, a man with a withered hand came unto him, and Jesus told him to stretch forth his hand; and did he obey Jesus? Could he stretch out a withered hand? The man did so immediately, and his hand was well like the other.

You see, the man obeyed Jesus, and so his hand was cured.

At another time, in the synagogue where Jesus was, there was a poor woman, who was so bent together that she was unable to lift herself up, that is, her back was so bent she could not stand up straight, and was obliged to hold her head down all the time. And when

Jesus saw her, and knew how long she had suffered in this way, that she had been bent nigh eighteen years, he pitied her, and asked her if she would be made whole. He put his hands on her, and in a moment her poor crooked back was made straight, and she could lift up her head just like other people. And O, how she thanked and praised God her Savior!

But, children, we now wish to tell you how Jesus caused the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

The first one we will tell you about is one which seems to have greatly surprised the people. Now, on returning to Capernaum, after the storm we told you about, Jesus performed several great miracles, after which he performed a great one on a dumb man possessed with a devil. It is said that when the devil was cast out, the dumb man spoke and the people were amazed.

You shall now hear about a man who was deaf, and who had an impediment in his speech and could not speak plain.

But, then, what way did Jesus take to let the man know about the cure? He would have to converse with him by signs; would

he not? Having taken him apart from the multitude, Jesus put his fingers in the man's ears, then he touched his tongue with moisture from his own mouth. This would let the man see what Jesus could do for him, and would help him to believe Jesus would cure him. Then Jesus looked up to heaven, so as to let the man know how the cure came altogether from heaven; and as he looked up he sighed, as if he was sorry to see sad troubles which sin had brought down upon the people of this world; then he said to the deaf ear and the bound-up tongue, Ephphatha, which means "Be opened," and that very moment the man could both speak and hear.

What did Jesus do for the blind? Did he ever cause any one who was blind to see? You shall hear of things he did, how he caused the blind to see.

As we have already told you, on landing at Capernaum he performed several miracles.

We will now tell you about the miracle he performed when he came to the house where he lived; and will tell you about one he performed *before* he could get to the house, in the next lesson.

As Jesus was passing along two blind men followed him, and cried saying, *Thou Son of David, have mercy on us!* Jesus did not, however, turn to them, but let them follow him. And when he came into the house, the blind men came to him, and he asked them at once if they believed he was able to do this? And they said, *Yea, Lord.* Then Jesus touched their eyes, and did not say, Be opened, but said, *According to your faith be it unto you.* And their eyes were opened.

What sort of faith had these blind men? They had good faith, or their eyes would not have been opened.

At another time, when Jesus and his disciples, and a great crowd with him, were passing through Jericho, a poor blind man, called Bartimeus, was sitting by the wayside begging. Hearing the tramp of many people, Bartimeus asked what it meant, and he was told that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. No sooner did poor blind Bartimeus catch the sound of that name, than he began to cry out in a very earnest manner, Jesus, *thou Son of David, have mercy on me!* But some of the crowd or people near him forbid

his crying out to disturb King Messiah in his march, saying he should hold his peace. This, however, made him cry the louder, *Thou Son of David, have mercy on me!* And did the Son of David hear him? Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called; and they said to the blind man, Be of good comfort, arise, he calleth thee. And that he might not be hindered in getting to Jesus quickly, throwing off his outside garment or coat, he sprang to his feet and came to Jesus. And Jesus said to him, What wilt thou that I should do for thee? And Bartimeus said, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way, thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight.

Bartimeus was no longer obliged to stay in one place, and could go where he pleased. And so what did he choose to do? He followed Jesus in the way with the others, glorifying and praising God. And all the people when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Having answered his cry for mercy, and having him brought to him, what did Jesus ask Bartimeus? (Replies.) When he told

the Lord just what he wanted, was the prayer of Bartimeus answered? (Replies.) You see, when we pray, the Lord would have us tell him just what we want him to do for us.

But why was Jesus called the Son of David? (Replies: Because he was a descendant of King David; and because by that name Jesus was known to be King Messiah.) How did these persons know about Jesus, that he could cure their blindness? They heard about his great works, and knew what the prophets had said how it should be when the Messiah should come. You may now repeat the text about it.

(The children repeat.)

"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing."

Bartimeus believed Jesus to be the Messiah that was to come, and so had faith to believe he would save him from his blindness.

(The children repeat.)

"Son of David, hear them crying,
In their blindness, dark and drear;
But their faith takes no denying,
Knows not either doubt or fear;
Mercy on us,
Son of David!
Dost thou not thy suppliants hear?"

Yes, he hears, and heals their blindness,
Giving both a perfect sight;
Such his love, his power, and goodness,
Mercy his supreme delight;
Then, my Savior,
Heal my blindness,
Give my soul a perfect sight."

LESSON XXIX.

ABOUT JESUS AND THE MAN BORN BLIND.

WAS it ever known that any doctor or person gave sight to those who were born blind? Such a thing, children, was never known since the world began till Jesus came. No matter what was the cause of the blindness, he could cure it, even though they were born blind.

One time as Jesus and his disciples were walking along together, the disciples spoke to Jesus about a man who was blind from his birth, and had never seen any at all.

Jesus stopped for a few moments, that he might cause the man to be saved from his blindness.

Now, children, I will tell you how the man was made to see.

Jesus first spit on the ground and made some clay into a sort of mortar; then he took the clay which he had moistened with his spittle and anointed the man's eyes with it who had been born blind, and said to him, Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam.

And could the man see now? No; for there was something which Jesus required the man to do first before he could see; and that was, to go and *wash in a cistern*.

Did the man obey Jesus? He might think it a very simple and foolish way of being saved from his blindness, seeing he was born blind, just to *go and wash off the clay on his eyes in the Pool of Siloam*.

The man went, and as he washed in the pool his blindness went off, and O! the man that was born blind came seeing! And the man afterward worshiped Jesus.

This man's *going and washing* just as he had been bidden, what did it show? It showed his faith in Jesus, that if he would

but do the little he could do, he would save him from his blindness.

It is said that so long as people do not get their hearts changed from a bad to a good heart, that just so long there is a blindness in their souls. They can neither see the things of God, nor know Jesus as they ought.

All the people of this world are sinners, they are all born in sin, and have the blindness which sin causes in their souls, while they do not like to hear about the things of God, nor can they even, as they should, speak his praises.

How are we to be saved? Jesus died to save us; he bids us all to come to him and be washed in his blood by his Spirit.

What is this coming and being washed in the blood of Jesus? Children, it is faith in Jesus that he died for us and saves us from all our sins.

You see how there is mercy for us in the Lord Jesus; but, while we pray and tell him just what we wish him to do for our souls, there is something which we must all do first before we can be forgiven and saved; and I think, children, you know what that

one thing is that we must do—that we must have faith in Jesus, believe he died for us and saves us from our sins, as he has said.

Children, I hope you will obey the Lord Jesus, and attend to that one thing which he requires of you; for what has he said? According to your faith be it unto you.

You may now sing the verses in the second hymn of the preceding lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Son of David, hear them crying," etc.

Now sing the first hymn in the same lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Jesus, I come to thee," etc.



LESSON XXX.

ABOUT JESUS BRINGING THE DEAD TO LIFE—THE RULER'S DAUGHTER—THE WIDOW'S SON.

"Thy voice, dear Jesus, wakes the dead,
And death yields up her prey;
It brings the silent sleeper forth
From darkness into day.

So shall I wake when thou dost call
The dead from every tomb,
To stand before thy judgment bar
To hear their final doom.

O Lord, from sin's delusive sleep
Awake my slumbering heart;
And by thy Spirit's quickening power
Reviving grace impart."

You have seen, dear children, what was done for people who were sick, and lame, and blind, how Jesus cured them and made them well; but did Jesus ever do any thing for those whose friends were dead, as well as for the dead themselves?

You shall see, children, what was done.

One time as Jesus was going along with a great crowd of people about him, a man whose name was Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, came through the crowd to Jesus, and fell down at his feet, and besought him to come to his house, for his only daughter, twelve years of age, lay dying; but while he was yet speaking to Jesus, a person came to the ruler, and told him not to trouble the Master, that his daughter was dead. Jesus, however, hearing this, said to the ruler, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.

And when they came to the place, Jesus would allow no one to go in with him but his disciples, Peter, James, and John.

Now, when they came into the house, the

ruler's family, and those who were assembled to mourn with them, were all weeping and wailing: And Jesus said to them, Weep not, she is not dead; but sleepeth. But they all laughed scornfully at Jesus; that is, the ruler's family, and the people who were with them, knowing that the child was really dead. So Jesus put them all out, and would allow no one to be in the room with him but his three disciples and the parents, for they believed Jesus, and would not laugh at what he said as the others had done.

And when Jesus was alone with the disciples and the parents having put all the others out and closed the door, he took the child by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she was alive and well. And Jesus told them to give her some food. And the parents were astonished. You see, the dead can hear the voice of Jesus.

One time as Jesus and his disciples, with a crowd of people, were coming into a city called Nain, and were near the gate of the city, behold, there was a funeral just coming out. It was the funeral of a young man, the only son of a widow.

Now, the funeral was a very large one, for many of the people of Nain, who mourned with the widow that she had lost her only son, were with her walking in the procession.

And when Jesus saw the woman, he felt so very sorry for her he said, Weep not! And what now did Jesus do? He came and touched the bier, and the men who were carrying it stood still; then Jesus spoke to the dead man, and said, Young man, I say unto thee, arise! And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And Jesus gave the young man to his mother alive and well.

And now how were the people affected by this miracle? A fear came upon all, and they glorified God; that is, they praised God, saying that a great prophet is risen up among us; and that God hath visited his people.

Who were with Jesus when he raised the ruler's daughter from the dead? (Replies.) Who saw Jesus raise the widow's son from the dead as they were carrying him to the grave to bury him? (Replies: *A great many people saw him, those who were with Jesus, and those who were with the widow.*) After this great multitude of people had seen Jesus raise the widow's son from the dead,

on their return to their homes what did they do? They made Jesus known every where they went throughout all the country of Judea; they told what power Jesus had to raise the dead.

Can any being raise the dead but God? No. But Jesus did. How was it that he could raise the dead? I will tell you how it was; Jesus was God as well as man; therefore, he could raise the dead.

Can any one forgive sins but God? You may repeat the text about it.

(The children repeat.)

"Who can forgive sin but God alone?"

What does this miracle teach us of Christ? Children, it teaches us his tender sympathy with those who are in trouble, and his great power to help them.

Have you chosen him for your Savior, and given him your hearts? There are some verses that will help you to remember this lesson; you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"Weep not,' the Savior saith,
Weep not for those who die,
Nor tremble at approaching death,
For Christ is ever nigh.

Death is a vanquished foe,
Christ the victorious king;
Nor can his trusting children know
The power of death to sting.

When little children die,
Who love the Savior well,
The angels bear their souls on high,
With Christ in heaven to dwell.

My Savior I will love,
And this shall be my prayer,
That I may dwell in heaven above,
And love my Savior there."

LESSON XXXI.

ABOUT JESUS AND THE FAMILY AT BETHANY.

DEAR children, in a town called Bethany there lived a very loving family, two sisters, Martha and Mary, and their brother Lazarus. And there was one person whom this family loved very much; who was it? I will tell you who it was; it was Jesus. Jesus loved them, and they loved Jesus.

This town was situated in a valley below the Mount of Olives, some six miles from Jerusalem. When Jesus went to Jerusalem to stop any time, he generally left the city at night, and would either go over to

the Mount of Olives, and pass the night there, or he would go down to Bethany, and lodge with his friend Lazarus.

Now, Lazarus was taken very sick ; Martha and Mary knew that Jesus loved him very much, and they thought if they would but let him know how his friend was sick, he would surely make him well.

So one day, while Jesus was away beyond Jordan, where John at first baptized, a person came to him in great haste, with this message from the sisters : He whom thou lovest is sick ! And the only word Jesus gave them was this, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God.

In the mean time, however, Lazarus died ; and the sisters were now in great sorrow and trouble.

But why did not Jesus make him well when the sisters sent him word that he was sick ? You see, Lazarus died after the men left with the message to Jesus. So, Jesus knowing that Lazarus was dead when the men came to him, would comfort the sisters. He sent them a word which would give them a hope that he would raise Lazarus from the dead. What was the word which Jesus gave

to the messenger from Martha and Mary?
(Replies.)

And after remaining still in the same place two days, Jesus left and went to Bethany; and when he had come near the place, he found that Lazarus had been dead and in his grave four days.

What did Jesus do? He had raised the dead, but then they were not in their graves. You shall see, children, what was done.

The two sisters were sitting in the house with many of their friends around them, who were paying them a visit, that they might comfort them in their sorrow. And Martha was told that Jesus was coming, and she went immediately out to meet him. And when she beheld him she cried, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. And then she said, But I know that even now whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. You see, Martha not only knew Jesus had raised the dead, but understood the word Jesus had given the messenger, and so had a hope that he would raise her brother from the dead to life again. And Jesus, answering her, said, Thy brother

shall rise again. From the way Jesus now answered her, Martha began to think he would not now raise her brother as she had thought, and so somewhat sadly said, I know my brother will rise again in the resurrection at the last day. And Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die. Believest thou this? And she said, Yea, Lord, I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God, which should come into the world.

Martha now believed that Jesus was truly her Savior, and so with a gladdened heart she went back to the house, and told her sister Mary how Jesus had come, and wished to see her, and she went immediately out to see him, for he was still in the same place Martha met him.

So when Mary left the house, the friends who were with her thought she was going to her brother's grave to weep there, and so followed her; but it was to Jesus she went.

And when Mary came where Jesus was, she fell down at his feet and cried, Lord, if

thou hadst been here, my brother had not died ; and could say no more for weeping. And when Jesus saw her great grief, and how all the people who were with her were weeping, he groaned in spirit, and was troubled, for his heart was full of love and pity ; he felt grieved for them that they were all in such sorrow. And he asked where they had laid him ; and they said, Come and see. And when he beheld the place where Lazarus was buried, Jesus wept. And some of the Jews who saw Jesus weeping, said, Behold how he loved him. Martha, however, could not see just what Jesus intended to do, her faith again becoming weak ; that if Jesus only wished to look once more on the face of his friend, it would be unpleasant for him ; objected to having the grave opened, saying that her brother had been dead four days, and the body had now begun to decay. But Jesus reminded her how he had told her if she would but believe, she should see the glory of God. At these words faith again sprung up in Martha's heart, full and clear, believing every thing which Jesus had promised ; she could see clearly that Jesus was now about to raise her brother from the

dead, even though he had already begun to decay.

Jesus being no longer hindered by Martha's want of faith in the great work he wished to perform, the stone was taken away; and Jesus looked up to his Father and thanked him for the opportunity he had of performing this miracle; not, he said, for his own sake, but for the sake of those who stood by, that they may believe thou hast sent me into the world. Then Jesus cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth! And that moment Lazarus lived, and worked himself out of the grave, even though the grave-clothes which he had on confined his limbs, and his face was bound about with a napkin. And Jesus told those who stood near him to loose his clothes and let him go. And Lazarus stood among them new and fresh, without any decay or taint of the grave about him.

You know, children, how persons who sin against God were said to be dead in trespasses and sin. What can Jesus do for the souls of those who are dead in trespasses and sin? He can give them eternal life.

But when does Jesus give this eternal life

to people? (Replies: He gives them eternal life *when he gives them a new heart, and they are born of the Holy Spirit.*) How did Jesus say the Holy Spirit should be in the heart? (Replies: He says the Holy Spirit shall be in the heart *as a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*)

Yes; and so he told Martha that all living people who believed in him should never die.

You have now seen two things: 1. That Jesus is the resurrection and the life of the dead who believe in him; 2. That Jesus is the life of the living who believe in him with the whole heart, that he is their Savior, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.

You may now repeat the text about the first thing, how Jesus is the resurrection and the life of the dead who had believed in him.

(The children repeat.)

"I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

You may now repeat the text about the second thing, how Jesus is the life of the living who believe in him.

(The children repeat.)

"Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Now you may repeat Martha's answer, when Jesus asked if she believed what he said.

(The children repeat.)

"Yea, Lord; I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

How may we get this eternal life in our souls, and be saved at last, soul and body, in heaven?

You know, children, it is only by believing in Jesus with all the heart, that we can have a new heart and be born of the Holy Spirit.

Is there any promise about this eternal life, which we may take home to our own hearts by believing, if we but leave off all our sins? There is a text about it; you may repeat it.

(The children repeat.)

"He that believeth in me shall have everlasting life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

What is the best time to prepare for death;

that is, to get a new heart, and be born of the Holy Spirit, so as to be saved at last, both soul and body, in heaven? (Replies: *The best time to prepare for death* is in childhood and youth.)

You may now sing the first hymn in the lesson.

(The children sing.)

"Thy voice, dear Jesus, wakes the dead," etc.



LESSON XXXII.

THE MIRACLE OF THE LOAVES—THE TRANSFIGURATION.

DEAR children, you have now seen the great things Jesus did for those who were sick, how he cured them of all their sicknesses; but did Jesus ever do any thing for people when they were hungry?

You will remember the time when Jesus performed so many miracles as he landed, just on his return after the storm. Now, at that time, while Jesus was yet in Capernaum with his disciples gathered around him, the people who wished to see Jesus were coming

and going so in such crowds all the time, it is said that they could not get any rest, not so much as to eat. So Jesus having told his disciples to come with him to a desert, to a quiet place where they might rest awhile, they left the city without letting the people know about their going, and went by water in a ship to the desert.

The people, however, could see them go. They could look at the ship, and they saw to what place it was sailing, and so followed Jesus by land on foot.

And when Jesus with his disciples on landing had come to the place where he wished to eat, he looked, and behold a very great company of men, women, and children were assembled in the place to meet him.

What did Jesus do—send them away? No! He pitied the people; so he said they were as sheep having no shepherd; and so, instead of resting, he preached to them and healed all their sick ones.

The people had listened to the words of Jesus all day, and it was now getting dark. And being in a wilderness place where they could not get any food, the disciples came to Jesus and asked him if he would send the

people home that they might get themselves something to eat? But Jesus knew how the people had eaten nothing all day, and did not wish to send them away tired and hungry, and said to the disciples, Can not you feed them? Philip said, Two hundred penny-worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that all may take a little. And Andrew said, There is a lad here with five barley loaves and two small fishes, but what are they among so many?

Jesus, however, told the disciples to have the people sit down on the grass in an orderly manner; that is, in companies, having fifty in each.

The people being seated, in number five thousand men, besides the women and little children, Jesus took the five loaves and two fishes which had been brought to him, and when he had given thanks, having broken up the bread, he gave it to the twelve disciples, and the disciples gave to the people. And they did all eat and had as much as they wanted; and after they were done they took of the pieces that were left twelve baskets full.

What a great miracle! You see, children,

neither the disciples nor any other person could make five loaves and a few fishes enough to feed such a great multitude of people; but Jesus did, and no one but God could do such a miracle.

A few days afterward, Jesus and the disciples came at evening to the foot of a very high mountain, supposed to be Mount Tabor. Jesus, leaving the rest of the disciples below, took Peter, and James, and John, and went up into the mountain to pray, and was transfigured before them. But what is it to be transfigured?

To be transfigured, is to be changed both in form and appearance. But when you hear about it, how it was that Jesus was transfigured, I think you will be better able to see something of what is meant by it.

When Jesus had come into the mountain, he left the three disciples by themselves, and went a little way from them; not so far, however, but that the disciples could both see and hear him pray.

Now Jesus prayed a long while, and the disciples being weary, they fell asleep; but when they awoke they saw their Master was greatly changed, that his face did shine as

the sun, and that his raiment, that is, his clothes, was white as the light. They saw, too, that he was not alone, for two other persons appeared in glory with him; and who do you think they were? One was Moses, the person to whom God gave the ten commandments, that he might teach them to the people; and the other one was Elijah, the chief of the prophets, who was taken up to heaven, like Enoch, without dying. Moses had been in heaven near three thousand years, and Elijah had been there a long while too. They looked bright and shining like the people of heaven in glory.

The disciples not only knew these two persons, but they heard what they were saying to Jesus, that they were talking to him about his death, how he would die at Jerusalem.

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, let us make here three tabernacles or booths, one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." But while he was yet speaking, behold, what happened? A bright cloud overshadowed them; and a voice out of the cloud said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

You see, God would have people know

Jesus, his beloved Son, is the person to whom he now gives his laws and makes known his mind; that there will be no other teacher but Jesus, and that they are now to hear him.

Remember, children, Jesus, the Son of God, is the great teacher that was to come into the world. We are now to obey his laws and mind his Word. I hope you will listen to the teaching of Jesus. You know what he has said, that you must have a new heart—be born again.

There are some verses about a new heart, which, children, I would wish you to learn, and say them to me next Sabbath; but just now you may repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

“God of mercy! God of love!
Hear me from thy throne above;
Teach me how in truth to pray,
Take my sinful heart away.

Often I offend thee, Lord,
I neglect thy holy Word,
Break thy blessed Sabbath day;
Take my rebel heart away.

When my friends and teachers kind,
Bid me their instructions mind,
When I talk or idly play,
Take my careless heart away.

Oft I disobedient grow,
And ungrateful tempers show,
Evil things I do and say;
Take my wicked heart away.

When of Jesus' love I'm told,
And my heart is dull and cold,
O! to me thy love display,
Take my stony heart away.

Mold my nature all afresh,
Give to me the heart of flesh;
For I know that grace Divine
Changes even hearts like mine."

LESSON XXXIII.

CHRIST BLESSING LITTLE CHILDREN—THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

AND now, children, we have told how Jesus received people, that he was always kind, good, and merciful to them; but how did he receive little children? Did he ever notice them at all, or do any thing for them in particular? What did he say about them? What did he do for them? You shall now hear about these things.

One time, some persons who wished not only to belong to Jesus themselves, but who desired to have their children belong to

him, also, that they might grow up in his love and service, brought their little children to Jesus, to have him put his hands on them and bless them.

But the disciples forbid the children being brought; thinking, as it would seem, that the children were too young to learn any thing, and so would only trouble the Lord to have them brought to him.

And when Jesus knew about it, how the disciples had not only forbid the persons themselves from coming to Jesus, in their fear of troubling him, but prevented the little children from receiving his blessing, he was much displeased with the disciples, and reproved them for doing so, and said, Suffer the little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of God.

And then said, Verily, I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, shall not enter therein. And now what did he with the little children? He took them up in his arms, and put his hands on them, and blessed them.

What was the first thing Jesus said about children coming to him? (Replies.)

Will the Savior receive little children now?

Does he love them as he did when upon earth? Jesus loves little children now just as much as ever, and you know the way to come to him, and ask him to forgive your sins and bless you. You can pray to him, and he will bless you.

Jesus would have us see how he is the life of the soul as well as the body; that he can save the soul and keep it from dying.

So, you see, if sinners are not saved it will be because they will not come to Jesus, nor believe in him that they may be saved, so as to have the Holy Spirit in their soul and filled with the love of Jesus.

What does Jesus say to those who will not come to him? You may repeat the text.

(The children repeat.)

“Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life.”

When the Lord Jesus saw the great multitude of people who had come out to the wilderness to meet him, how did he feel? He pitied them. Why? Because he said they were as sheep having no shepherd; that is, had no one to care for their souls.

You know, children, what a shepherd is;

that a shepherd is one who takes care of sheep, leads them out to pasture where they may find grass to eat and water to drink, and keeps them safe from all harm by night as well as by day; and how the sheep know the shepherd's voice, and will follow him wherever he leads them.

Jesus called himself the Good Shepherd. Why? Because he cares for the souls of people; he not only feeds and takes care of them, but he laid down his life to save them. And so, you know, we are now to hear Jesus, the Son of God, and be his sheep, his followers.

(The children repeat.)

"See! the kind shepherd, Jesus, stands,
With all-engaging charms;
Hark! how he calls the tender lambs,
And folds them in his arms.

Let little children come! he cries,
Forbid them not to come;
Their mansion is above the skies,
And I will lead them home.

He'll lead us to the heavenly streams,
Where living waters flow,
And guide us to fruitful fields,
Where trees of knowledge grow.

The smallest lamb amid the flock
Shall be the shepherd's care;
While folded in the Savior's arms
We're safe from every snare."

Some of the Jews complained of Jesus, because he was friendly to sinners; that he both received them and ate with them. Then Jesus spoke a parable to them. You know what a parable is, that it is an instructive story.

The parable was this: What man of you having a hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and goeth after that which is lost till he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulder, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me! for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons which need no repentance.

By the lost sheep, whom did Jesus mean? (Replies: He meant sinners.) By the just persons, whom did he mean? Probably he meant the angels in heaven. For having never sinned, they have no sins to repent of.

There are some pretty verses, children,

that will just be in place here ; you may now repeat them.

(The children repeat.)

"A little lamb forsook the fold,
And wandered far away,
In mountain forests, dark and cold,
Where every danger lay.

The shepherd called the wanderer back
With many a tender word,
And far upon that mountain track
The shepherd's voice was heard.

He followed on through depths profound,
In darkness and in storm,
Till on the mountain's utmost bound
He saw its trembling form.

He took the lamb upon his breast,
To shield it from the cold,
And safely laid it down to rest
Within the guarded fold.

'T was I who strayed so far away,
'T was I the Savior found;
I in his gentle bosom lay,
By love securely bound.

O, loving Shepherd, I will keep
Forever near thy side,
And follow with thy faithful sheep
My Savior and my guide."

Would you wish to be one of those little lambs over which there is joy in heaven ? Then, children, you know what you must do ;

how you must leave off all your sins and get the love of God in your heart.

But when Jesus blesses you, what does he wish you to do? He would then have you confess his goodness and power to save in saving you from your sins, to follow him and never leave him; and he will feed you with his love, and take care of you while you live, and when you die he will take you to heaven to live with him forever.

LESSON XXXIV.

JESUS WALKING UPON THE WATER—THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM.

DEAR children, when Jesus had not only preached to the multitude that came out to meet him all day, but had fed them with the five loaves and two small fishes, what did he perceive? He perceived that the people wished to take him with his disciples by force, and make him their king at Jerusalem. So he sent his disciples in a ship or boat to the other side of the lake—Lake Tiberias—and dismissed the people, that they might go to

their homes, and then went into the mountain to pray.

Jesus continued to pray all night; that is, till after three o'clock in the morning.

But what had become of the disciples? It was dark night, the wind blew very hard. They were out on the deep water rowing and toiling, and could not make the other shore, and so were in great fear and trouble.

Jesus, however, could see them from the mountain where he was. And now that they were in very great danger he determined to go to their assistance at once.

But how was he to get to them? He was alone in a wilderness-place, and the disciples had the boat away out upon the water, about four miles from the shore. Could he not walk upon the water? Jesus could walk as easily upon the water or the air as he could upon the land; for you know he created both the air and water as well as the land. What does the text say? It is said that all things were created by him and for him. Col. i, 16, 17. And so Jesus came unto the disciples walking upon the sea.

And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were troubled, saying, It is

a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answering, said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter had come down out of the ship, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me, or I perish. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand and caught him, saying, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship the wind ceased, and the sea became calm.

Children, when in trouble think of the goodness and the mercy of the Lord Jesus to his disciples coming to them when in trouble upon the stormy sea, and let it comfort you. No matter where you are, Jesus can see you from his throne in heaven. He is ever near and ready to help you when in trouble, if you but trust in him. There are some verses that will help you to remember this. You may repeat them after me.

(The children repeat.)

"In darkness, and in danger, Lord,
In all the storms of life,
I trust thy presence and thy Word
To still the angry strife.

When adverse winds assail my bark,
And tempests around me roll;
When days and nights alike are dark
Unto my troubled soul—

Then walk the waves, thou Son of God!
And bid the tempest cease;
For while I kiss thy lifted rod
My soul cries out for peace."

We never read of Jesus walking on the water but this once; that when he went anywhere by water he went in a ship or a boat.

But, in what way did he travel when he went by land? We always read of his traveling on foot, except once; and that once, children, we will now tell about.

When it was within six days of the time of another Passover at Jerusalem, Jesus went over to the town of Bethany to see his friend Lazarus, with his disciples. Many of the people of Jerusalem hearing where he had gone, came over to see both Jesus and Lazarus; for they wished to know if what they had heard was really true, that Jesus had raised Lazarus from the grave, after be-

ing dead and in his grave four days. (In that country they buried their friends almost immediately after they died.) You know Bethany was only six miles from Jerusalem.

The next morning Jesus and his disciples were going over to Jerusalem; and a great many people who were of Jerusalem, and who had gathered themselves together the previous evening, were going with them.

Now, as the time had come in which Jesus would have all the people know, both the Jews and others, how he was that very king of which the prophets had foretold, the promised Savior that was to come into the world, and had a right to the throne of his father David, what did he do? He sent two of his disciples over into a village to get a colt, the foal of an ass, whereon no man had ever sat.

What had a prophet said many hundred years before this, about the Savior riding on an ass? You may repeat the text on the prophecy.

(The children repeat.)

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! O daughter of Jerusalem, behold thy king cometh unto thee; he is just, and hav-

ing salvation ; lowly, and riding upon an ass."

And when they had brought the colt which they had borrowed as the Lord directed, the disciples took their outer garments and spread them over its back ; then the Lord Jesus mounted thereon, and was escorted by the people as he proceeded onward toward Jerusalem, with such honors as were given to kings.

And here, as they came to the brow of the hill, they were met by a crowd who had come out of the city to meet them. And now the shout of a king was very great, while some hurried to cut down branches from the trees and strewed them in the way, and others spread their robes in the way, as a carpet for Jesus to ride upon. And as they began to descend the mount, the disciples began to praise God for all the great work which they had seen, when all the people joining in, they shouted hosannas, Blessed is the King of Israel, that cometh in the name of the Lord ! Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord ! Hosanna in the highest !

Some Pharisees, however, who were near,

did not like to hear what the people had shouted, and wished Jesus to stop their shouts; and Jesus said to them, I say unto you, were these to hold their peace, the very stones would cry out.

And as the procession came nearer and nearer the city, the shouts of the people became more and more joyous.

And when they came into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, this is Jesus, the Prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

At last they came to the Temple; and here when Jesus came into the Temple, the children took up the song, and shouted, Hosanna to the Son of David!

And, children, would you not like to shout the praises of Jesus, as your Savior and your king? There is a verse about it; you may now sing it.

(The children sing.)

"Glory, honor, praise, and power,
Be unto the Lamb forever;
Jesus Christ is our Redeemer,
Halleluiah! halleluiah, praise the Lord."

And when the priests and scribes heard the children saying, Hosanna to the Son of

David, they were greatly displeased, and said to Jesus, Hear ye what these say? as if the children ought not to praise Jesus, in saying what they did. But what did he say? Jesus said to them, Yea, have ye never read, Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

Did Jesus take notice of the praises of the children, what they were singing? (Replies: *He did.*) What did Jesus say to those displeased at what the children said? (Replies: Have ye never read, Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?)

You see Jesus loves to have children praise him.

LESSON XXXV.

ABOUT JESUS—THE LORD'S SUPPER—THE AGONY—
THE TRIAL, BOTH JEWISH AND ROMAN—
SENTENCE AND DEATH.

A SHORT time after Christ's entry into Jerusalem, children, he and the twelve disciples attended the Passover in the city, which was said to be held in a long upper-room. The Passover, you know, was a re-

ligious feast of the Jews, held at Jerusalem once every year.

You will remember, children, how God taught people the way to keep his promise in mind about his Son, the Savior who was to come into the world to be a man and die to save sinners from sin and misery; that lambs were to be offered on an altar in sacrifice to God, to keep people in mind how the Savior would die for them. But you know that after Jesus died on the cross, that his death was to be kept in mind in another way, which is by taking the sacrament; that is, the bread and wine, called the Lord's Supper.

Now, Jesus knew about the wicked Jews, how their rulers were determined to put him to death at the time of the Passover; as the time had now come for the real Lamb to be offered; Jesus, God's Lamb, was to offer himself up unto God a sacrifice to take away the sin of the world. So, at this last Passover, having told his disciples all about the wicked Jews putting him to death, and that they were now just about to crucify him, Jesus told his disciples, the apostles, what way they and all the people of God were to keep

his death in mind till he would come again at the last day. He gave them the sacrament, that is, the bread and wine; and told them all to eat of the bread and drink of the wine with him, and showed them how they were to teach other disciples to take it. They break the bread and give it to all who love Christ, that they may remember how his precious body was broken with the nails and the spear on the cross. They pour out the wine and give it them to drink, that they may remember how Christ's blood was poured out of his dying body, and that he did it to save us from our sins.

You can now see for yourselves why the sacrament is called the Lord's Supper; that he both gave it to his disciples and eat of it with them, showing them how they were to teach other disciples to keep it, in remembrance of him, till he would come again.

I hope, children, you will not forget about the death of Jesus, for you now have learned how desirous Jesus was to have us keep it in mind. You may now repeat some verses which may help you to remember this.

(The children repeat.)

"Dear Savior, though a little child,
With sin my nature all defiled;
I would, while I have life and breath,
Remember well thy cruel death.

For me, for children, such as I,
Did Jesus suffer, bleed, and die;
He bore the cross, and shared the tomb,
To save me from the sinner's doom."

But how would the Jews take Jesus, that they might crucify him? I will tell you; Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, betrayed Jesus; and you shall see presently how he did it.

When Mary, the sister of Lazarus, anointed Jesus with the precious ointment, how angry Judas was with her for doing so, because the ointment cost so much, saying the money had better been given to the poor than to be wasted that way, and left the company and went out, which you know was the evening just before the Passover; and so what did he do? He went to the Jewish rulers, and for thirty pieces of silver agreed to tell them which was Jesus.

Now, when Jesus had said and done all things that he wished at the Passover, he then went to Gethsemane, a garden or grove of

olive-trees on Mount Olivet, near Jerusalem, and Peter and the two sons of Zebedee were with him; and he said to his disciples, My soul is exceeding sorrowful; tarry ye here and watch with me. And he went a little further and fell on his face and prayed; and the disciples could see him and hear him pray. Jesus knew that he must now suffer and die upon the cross, and as he prayed to his Heavenly Father about it, he was in great agony, that is, distress, so that he sweat great drops of blood, which fell down on the ground. And an angel from heaven was sent to strengthen him, that he might bear all that his Father would have him suffer, in dying to take away the sin of the world. What caused all this sorrow and suffering? Children, it was my sins and yours that caused it.

There are some verses which you may now repeat; they will help you to remember about the sorrow and suffering of Jesus in the garden.

(The children repeat.)

"How great thy sorrows, blessed Lord,
When thou didst prostrate fall;
And in the anguish of thy soul
Upon thy Father call!

When on thy calm and holy brow
That bloody sweat rolled down,
And human flesh and nature weak
Beneath thy Father's frown!

O sin! to cost my Savior this,
How dreadful sin must be!
To cost this suffering, grief, and blood,
For thee, my soul, for thee!"

At length, having prayed several times, Jesus went again to his disciples, and said to them, Sleep on now and take your rest; behold the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. And while Jesus was yet speaking, what happened? Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, and a band of soldiers and officers from the chief priests and elders of the Jews with him, came into the garden; for he knew the place where Jesus went to pray; and he came up to Jesus and said, "Hail, Master!" and kissed him; which was to be a sign to the Jews, that the person whom he would kiss would be Jesus, so that they might know him. And was not Judas a very wicked man? Yes, and a hypocrite, too; for he professed to be what he was not—a friend, when he was a traitor. And Jesus said to him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? And

when he kissed him, Jesus said to him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss? O! how cruel it was in Judas thus to betray his dear Lord and Master!

LESSON XXXVI.

ABOUT JESUS, HIS ARREST AND TRIAL.

WHEN Jesus saw his enemies who had come out from the high-priest to take him, the chief priests and elders of the Jewish people, with a band of soldiers from the government, with lanterns, and torches, and swords, and spears, what did Jesus do? He went up to them and said, Whom seek ye? and they said, Jesus of Nazareth; and Jesus said to them, I am he. And they were afraid, and went backward, and fell to the ground. Jesus would have them see his power, that his very word could cause them to fall backward to the ground. And when they came again, Jesus asked them, Whom seek ye? they said, Jesus of Nazareth. And Jesus said, I have told you I am he. Then the soldiers seized Jesus and bound him, and

they led him away to Annas first, and he sent him bound to Caiaphas the high-priest. Caiaphas questions Jesus about his preaching; and he told him that the Jews knew how he had preached, and what he had said. One of the high-priest's servants did not like it because Jesus spoke this truth to the high-priest, and struck him on the mouth; and Jesus very meekly asked him if it was proper to strike him without a cause?

Now, they could not find any thing in Jesus that deserved punishment, though they pretended they did, and gave him into the care of the soldiers, who treated Jesus shamefully; and all that night Jesus had no rest. Early the next morning Jesus was brought before the Jewish rulers again, who were in the Temple; and when they asked him if he was the Son of God? he said he was, as he had told Caiaphas. But they still condemned him, and said he should be put to death.

But now what had become of Judas? When he saw Jesus was condemned, he was sorry, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver, saying, I have sinned—I have betrayed innocent blood. And the chief priests

and elders said, What is that to us? see thou to that. Then Judas cast down the money in the Temple and went out, and, it is said, hanged himself.

So that they might have him put to death, the Jews led Jesus away to the judgment-hall, to Pilate the Roman Governor. And when Pilate had examined Jesus, he told the Jews to take him away, that he could find no fault in him. But with this the Jews would not be satisfied. Pilate then sent Jesus with them to Herod, the ruler of Galilee, where Jesus belonged, being now in Jerusalem. Herod, however, would not put Jesus to death; but he dressed him in a purple robe, such as kings wear, to make a mock of him, and let his soldiers insult him, and then sent him back to Pilate.

Pilate still declared that Jesus was an innocent man; and hoping he might be able to set him free, as was the custom for the Governor at the feast to pardon and release any prisoner whom the people might desire to have, thinking the people would ask for the release of Jesus, he asked them this question, Which will ye that I release unto you, Barabbas or Jesus? The chief priests

and scribes persuaded the people to have Barabbas released, who was a notorious robber. And when they chose to have the robber released, Pilate said to them, What shall I do then with Jesus, who is called Christ? And they said, Let him be crucified.

Then Pilate thought to pacify the Jews in another way; and so, having reminded them that neither Herod nor himself had found any fault in Jesus worthy of his being put to death, he caused Jesus to be scourged. And the soldiers, to deride and mock him, put on him a splendid purple robe, and platted a crown of thorns and placed it on his head, and put a reed in his hand, making him look like a king; then kneeling down before him, said, Hail, King of the Jews! and then they spat upon him, and struck him with their hands. And one snatching the reed out of his hand, struck the thorny crown, driving the thorns into his brow.

What cruel treatment! And Jesus bore all this cruel treatment as he did the insult and mockery of Herod and his men without saying a word.

Pilate now thought the Jews would be

satisfied when they would see how Jesus was suffering, and brought him forth wearing the purple robe and the crown of thorns, and let them see his bleeding temples, pierced by the thorns of which the crown was made, and his back, with the flesh all torn and bleeding from the lash of the whip with which he had been scourged, saying, Behold the man ! But this did not pacify them ; and Pilate was now greatly displeased with them, and said he would have nothing to do with putting this righteous man to death, and to take him away, for he had done nothing worthy of death, and he had found no fault in him ; and they said he ought to die because he made himself the Son of God. What did Pilate do then ? When he heard that Jesus called himself the Son of God, he was afraid, and still tried to save him ; and once again brought Jesus out to them, and as he presented Jesus to them, cried out, Behold your King ! But they all cried out fiercely, Away with him ! away with him ! crucify him ! And Pilate said, Shall I crucify your king ? and the chief priests said, We have no king but Cæsar.

And when Pilate saw he could not pacify

them, he delivered Jesus to them, that is, to the Jews, to be crucified; and took water and washed his hands before them all, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person. And all the people answered and said, His blood be on us and our children.

So the Jews took Jesus away and crucified him, and two thieves with him.



LESSON XXXVII.

ABOUT JESUS, OR THE CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION.

“ Come, children, hail the Prince of Peace,
Obey the Savior’s call;
Come, seek his face, and taste his grace,
And crown him Lord of all.

Ye lambs of Christ, your tribute bring,
Ye children, great and small,
Hosannas sing to Christ, your king,
And crown him Lord of all.

This Jesus will your sins forgive;
For such he drank the gall;
For such he died, that they might live
To crown him Lord of all.

Let every little girl and boy
That dwells upon this ball,
Their tongues employ in songs of joy,
And crown him Lord of all.”

DEAR children, you have seen from the last lesson how Jesus was tried by the Jewish rulers, and then by the Roman Governor, as well as Herod, the ruler of Galilee; that though nothing worthy of death was found against him, and there could be no fault found in him at all, how the Jews condemned him to death, and Pilate gave him to them to be crucified: but what is it to be crucified?

I think, children, you all know what a cross is. A cross is a long, straight piece of wood with another straight piece across it near the top.

Now, to be crucified, is to have the body placed on the long piece of wood with the arms and hands stretched out upon the cross-piece of wood; and then being bound with cords to the cross to be made fast to the wood by nails driven through the hands and feet, and then to have the lower end of the long piece of wood put in the ground so as to have the cross stand up like a tree, while the person hangs upon it by the hands and feet till he dies.

When Pilate gave the Jews permission to put Jesus to death, what did they do with

him? While they made him carry his cross till he nearly fainted under it, it was so heavy, they led him away to a place outside the walls of the city of Jerusalem, called Golgotha. Here, having offered him vinegar and myrrh to drink, as a sort of medicine to help him to bear pain—but Jesus refused to take it, for he wished to feel all the pain his Father would have him bear to save sinners—the soldiers nailed him to his cross, and two thieves with him, whose crosses were placed one on the right side of Jesus, and the other on the left, then parted his raiment among themselves. On the top of the cross Pilate had caused a writing to be placed, saying, “This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews;” for while he desired to show who it was that was hanging upon the cross, he would show that there was nothing against Jesus, that the Jews had put an innocent man to death. Jesus being now hung on the cross, the Jewish rulers with others wanted now to see him die. They ridiculed him even when he hung on the cross, as well as when on his way to be crucified.

But what had become of the disciples? They forsook Jesus; they were afraid of

these wicked Jews—except James, the son of Zebedee, who kept as near Jesus as he could all the while. Peter denied Jesus with an oath, saying he did not know the man; but was afterward very sorry, and repented having done so, and Jesus forgave him for it. At first Peter was very bold, and went about to fight the officers who came to take Jesus in the garden; drawing his sword, he cut off the high-priest's servant's ear. But was it necessary for any one to defend Jesus? No.

Jesus said to Peter, Put up thy sword again into its sheath; and reproved him for striking the officers of the Government, saying, For all they that take the sword shall perish by the sword; and told him he could now pray to his Father, and he would presently send him twelve legions of angels, who could fight for him, if he would wish.

When Jesus was hung upon the cross, he prayed to his Father to forgive his cruel murderers. It seems at first both of the thieves who were crucified with him, like the Jews and others who were looking on, insulted Jesus, but after a while one of them begged Jesus to save him, and he forgave him; Jesus next gave his mother, who, with

some other women, stood by weeping, to John's care. About noon, when Jesus had been on the cross about three hours, the sun was darkened, and it was dark like night over all the land. And at the ninth hour, which was about three o'clock in the afternoon, he cried out and prayed to his Father. Quickly after he cried out, saying, I thirst. And some one held up to him a sponge full of vinegar; which, when he had tasted, he cried out again with a loud voice, that his suffering work was finished; he then, giving his soul into the care of his Father, bowed down his head and died.

For whose sins did Jesus suffer this?

Among other things that happened while Jesus was dying, the earth shook, and rocks split, and graves were opened, and all the people present were struck with awe. The centurion who commanded the soldiers who were on guard, cried out, that certainly Jesus was the Son of God; and the soldiers beat their breasts for terror, and in grief, for what they had done in his death.

When they came to take the body of Jesus down from the cross, they, finding he was dead already, did not break any of his bones,

as they did those of the others who were crucified with him, only a soldier thrust a spear into his side, and blood and water came out of his heart. Having obtained permission of Pilate to take care of the body of Jesus, Joseph of Arimathea, with the assistance of Nicodemus, after perfuming and wrapping it in fine linen, laid it in his own new grave, which he had dug out of a rock in his garden.

The Jews remembering what Jesus had said, how he would rise on the third day, had the grave sealed, that is, made fast, and then set a guard of soldiers to watch it.

Now, very early in the morning on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene, with two other women, came to the sepulcher, and what did they see? They saw that the stone was taken away from the door of the sepulcher, and they thought some one had taken away the body of Jesus. So Mary ran back and told some of the disciples about it, and they came and found the stone was taken away from the door, as well as Mary. But who had moved the stone?

I will tell you, children, about it. That

morning, while it was yet dark, there was a great earthquake, and the Angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door of the sepulcher and sat upon it. I will tell you how he looked; his face was bright like lightning, and his clothes were as snow. And the soldiers who were set to watch the sepulcher were so frightened that they shook and fell to the ground like dead men. Other angels were seen, also, all clothed in white. Two were seen in the sepulcher, one at the head and the other at the feet where the body of Jesus lay. And as the disciples looked into the sepulcher, they said to them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? he is not here, he is risen! Remember what he said to you while he was with you, that he would be delivered into the hands of wicked men, and would be crucified, and on the third day rise again.

After the Angel had told the disciples and the friends of Jesus how he was risen again, they all went home but Mary; she stood by the sepulcher weeping; and stooping down, she saw the two angels in the sepulcher. And they said to her, Woman, why wepest

thou? And she said, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. And when she turned herself back whom did she see? She saw Jesus, but she did not know it was Jesus:.. And what did he say to her? He said, Woman, why weepest thou? What seekest thou? Mary thought he was the gardener, and said to him, Sir, if thou hast borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. But Jesus spoke to her again, and said to her, Mary! And when he spoke her name, then she knew it was Jesus, and she said to him, Master! And he said to her, Go, tell my brethren, I ascend unto my Father and your Father, and to my God and your God.

Jesus showed himself after he arose from the dead to his apostles and others, at different times, before he ascended to heaven; and they beheld the print of the nails in his hands and feet, and his side, where it had been pierced by the spear.

Having led his apostles and many other friends thence out to Mount Olivet, and having taught his apostles how they were to preach his Gospel till he would come again,

while with uplifted hands he was blessing them, he was taken up to heaven, and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they all stood looking as he went up, two angels, clothed in white, came to them, and said, Why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go up into heaven.

There are some verses you may repeat.

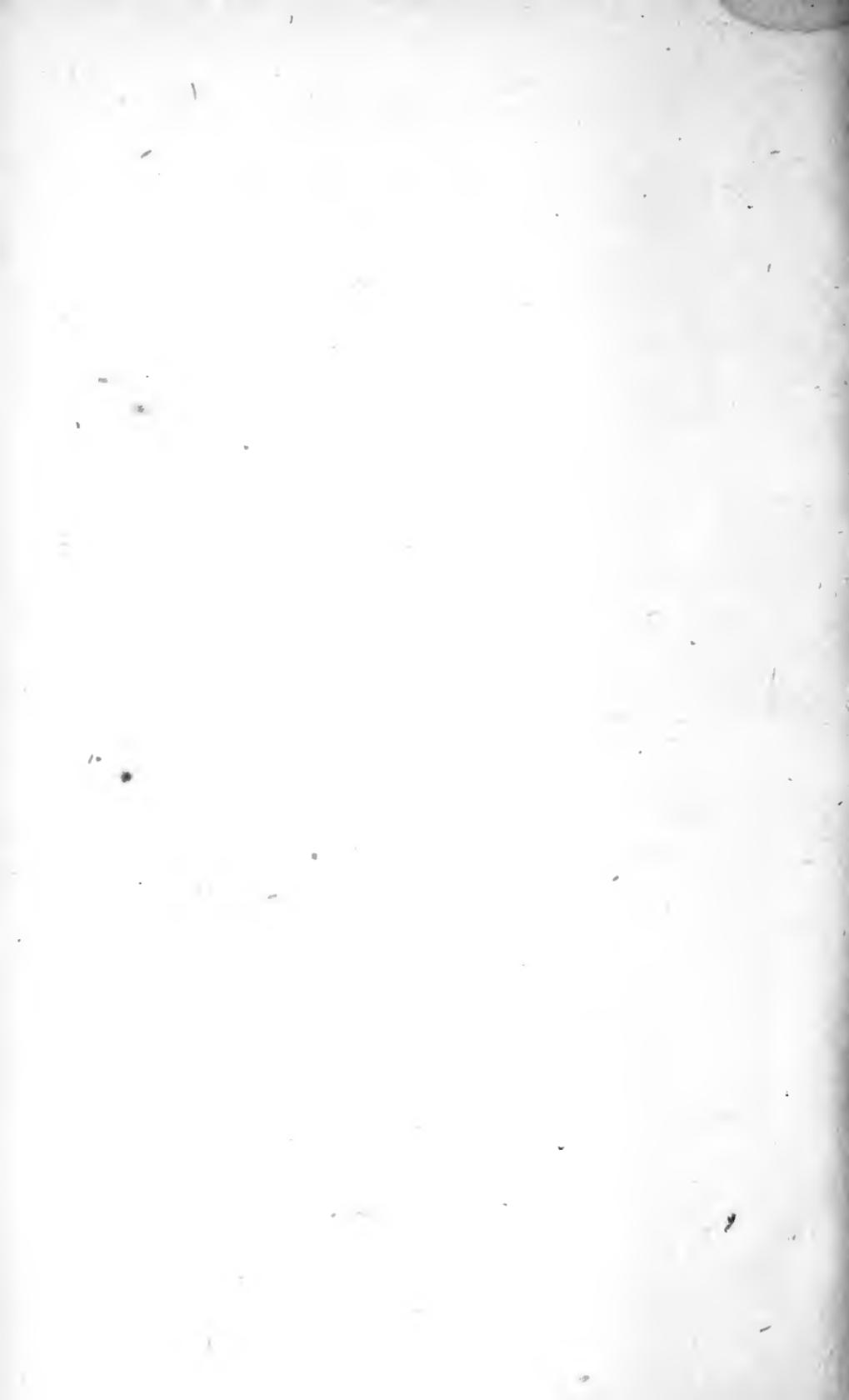
(The children repeat.)

“Hark! the herald angels say,
Christ, the Lord, is risen to-day;
Love’s redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won.

The angels roll the stone away,
Death yields up the mighty prey;
See, the Savior quits the tomb,
Glowing with immortal bloom.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
Lives again our glorious king!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?”







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